

THE  
ARCHITECT  
& BUILDING NEWS

21 JANUARY 1954

VOL. 205

No. 3

ONE SHILLING WEEKLY

**NEW YEAR NUMBER**



# AQUASHEEN

WATER THINNED ENAMEL

## REDUCES DECORATING COSTS

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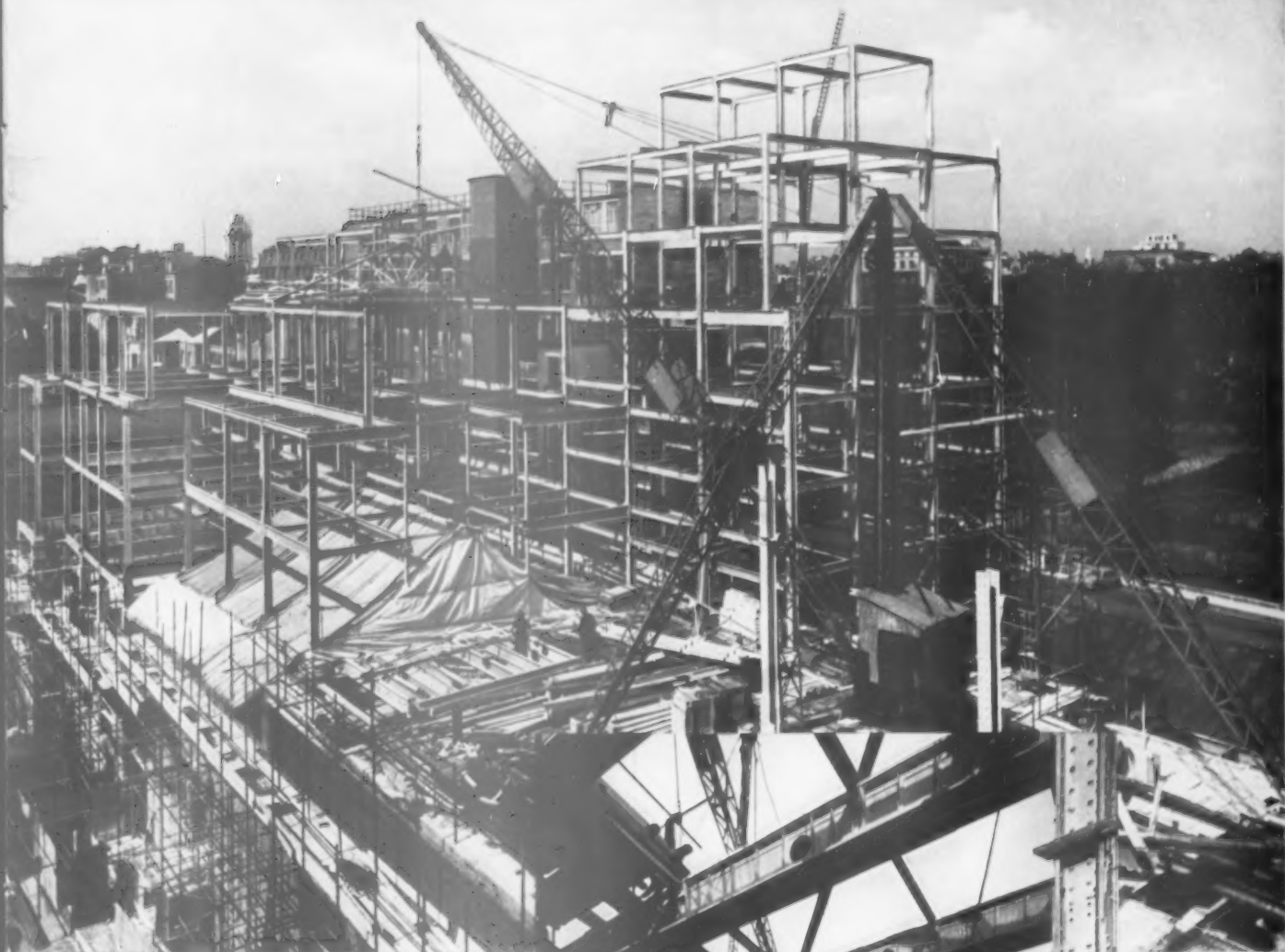
*"Aquasheen" is for interior use only.*

*"Aquasheen" is not a Latex Emulsion Paint.*

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A.M.I.C.E., M.I.Mun.E.

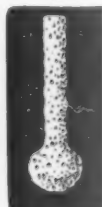
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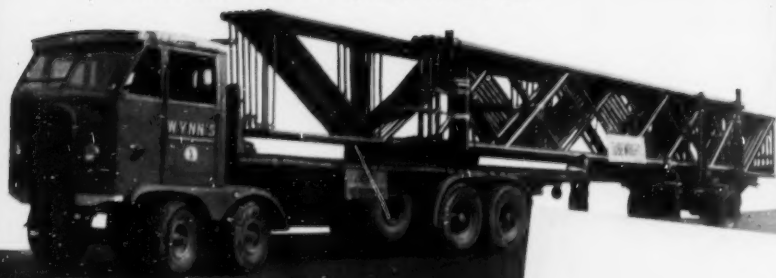
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## Tubular steel frames for factory buildings

The illustrations show stages in the progress of the single-storey factory for Rotax Ltd. at Hemel Hempstead New Town, to the designs of Clifford Tee and Gale, Architects, in association with T. Bedford, M.I.C.E., Consulting Engineer, the main contractors being J. Jarvis & Sons Ltd. The total floor area is approximately 165,000 sq. ft. and the factory was planned on a module of 60-ft. by 40-ft. This was the first all-welded tubular framed building erected in Great Britain. The use of fabricated tubular steelwork resulted in a saving of 30% in the weight of steel and 10% in the cost.

Other advantages are :-

*Saving in foundations*

*Cheaper handling*

*Speed of erection*

*Lower maintenance cost ; e.g. less painting and smooth surface*

*Increased lighting value*

With the exception of foundation bolts, no bolts or nuts were used in this structure. Delivery of shop-fabricated jigged units reduced site work to a minimum.



1<sup>st</sup>  
working  
week



3<sup>rd</sup>  
working  
week



14<sup>th</sup>  
working  
week

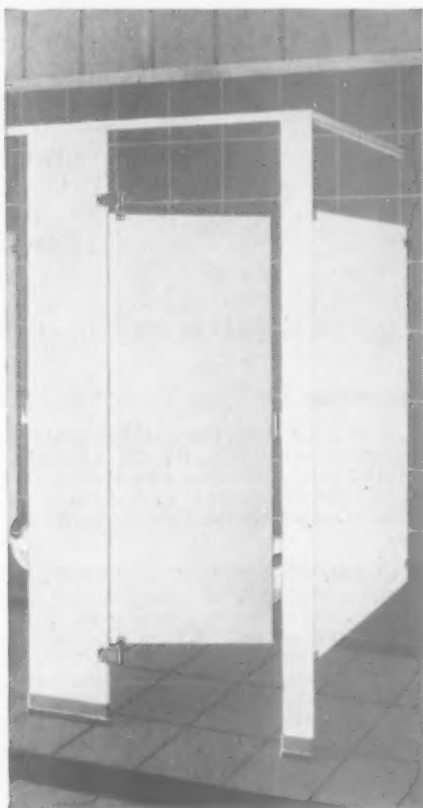
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- DOUBLE SKINNED DOORS *prevent warping.*
- PROOF AGAINST ANY CLIMATE, *hence suitable for use in any part of the world.*
- INSECT PROOF *and it won't harbour germs.*
- QUICK WORK. *It is prefabricated. Assembly on the spot is quick and easy.*
- LIMITLESS GROUPING. *Roflens can be assembled in any number.*
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† They do be called lavatory or toilet compartments over here, Zur.

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## **A combined operation...**

The total consumption of Fuel and Power in the United Kingdom during 1951 has been estimated at 214,200,000 tons of coal or coal equivalent. Of this total it is estimated that 60,400,000 tons were used for domestic purposes.

The possible total yearly consumption visualised for the years 1959-1963 in the "Ridley" Report is 248,400,000 tons, of which 66,300,000 tons are allocated to domestic use. (The latter figure included an estimated increase from 700,000 to 1,100,000 in the tonnage of oil fuel used).

This estimate of future domestic consumption is based on the assumption that population will increase by 1 million by 1961, that efficiency of fuel will increase by 5%, and that heat comfort per head will increase by 10%.

Leaving aside the question whether these figures are satisfactory, it is clear that to achieve a balance between desirable standards of heat comfort and the amount of extra fuel likely to be available will require careful planning by all concerned with the pattern of national fuel usage.

The Gas Industry stands ready to play its part in what must be a combined operation, not only by supplying Gas and Coke where these are considered to provide the best answer to a problem, but also by placing the knowledge and experience of its technicians freely at the service of all who wish to secure high standards of heating with economy of fuel.

### **Where to go for information about Gas**

If you are considering the use of Gas, however tentatively, your first move should be to get in touch with the Gas Undertaking serving the area in which the job is situated. Through it you have access to the combined technical resources of the entire Gas Industry. The following list gives the addresses and telephone numbers of the Area Boards. Where there is any uncertainty as to which Area Board is concerned, The Gas Council will be pleased to give you the correct address.

*Scottish Gas Board: 26, Drumsheugh Gardens, Edinburgh, 3. Edinburgh 34331/5. Northern Gas Board: 30, Grainger Street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 1. Newcastle-upon-Tyne 26101. North Western Gas Board: Bridgewater House, 60, Whitworth Street, Manchester, 1. Manchester Central 8121. North Eastern Gas Board: Bridge Street, Leeds, 2. Leeds 32571/4. East Midlands Gas Board: Beverley House, University Road, Leicester. Leicester 23201/5. West Midlands Gas Board: 6, Augustus Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, 15. Edgbaston 3616. Wales Gas Board: 1 and 2, Windsor Place, Cardiff. Cardiff 28621. Eastern Gas Board: 2, The Abbey Garden, London, S.W.1. Trafalgar 5373/7. North Thames Gas Board: 30, Kensington Church Street, London, W.8. Western 8141. South Eastern Gas Board: Katharine Street, Croydon, Surrey. Croydon 4466. Southern Gas Board: 164, Above Bar, Southampton. Southampton 76362. South Western Gas Board: 9a, Quiet Street, Bath. Bath 60411/5.*

*Issued by the Gas Council, 1 Grosvenor Place, London, S.W.1.  
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G.C. 51



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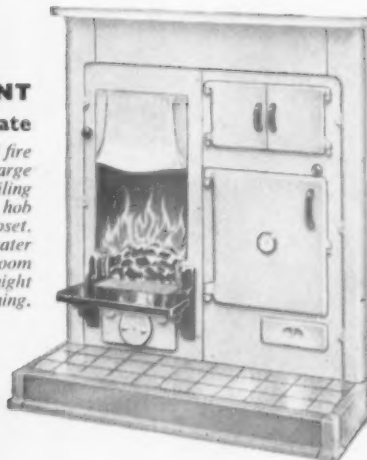


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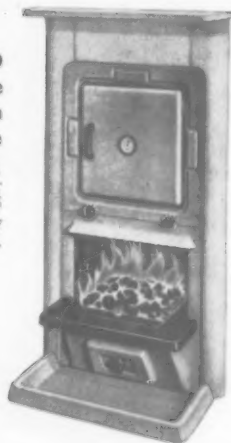
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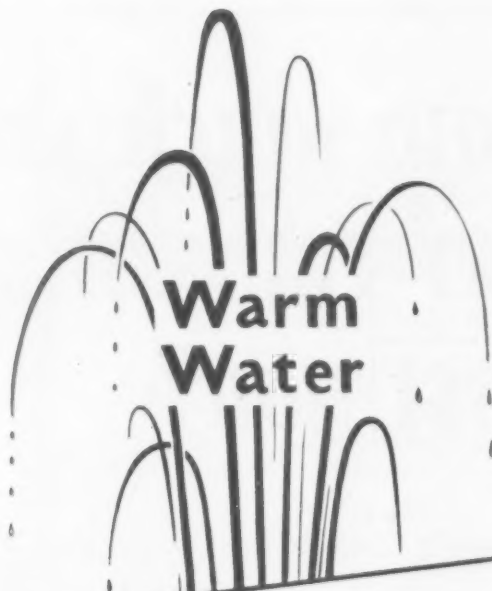
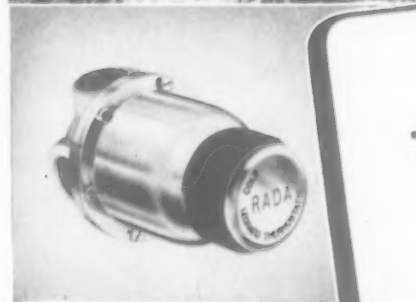
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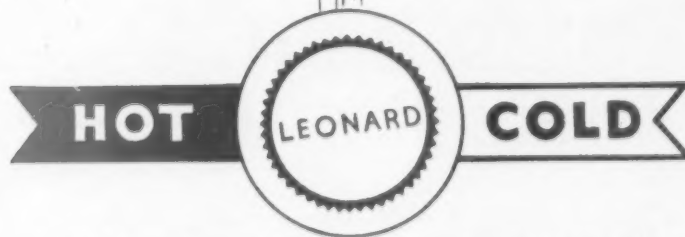
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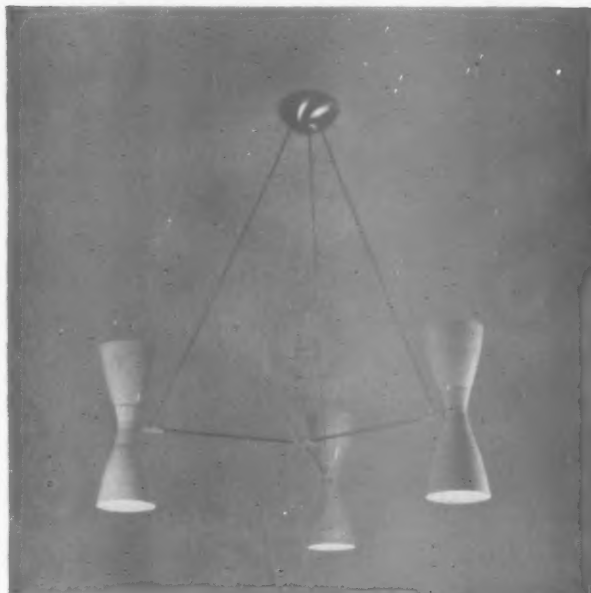
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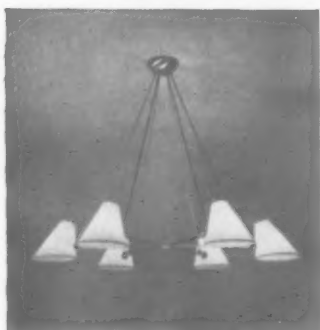
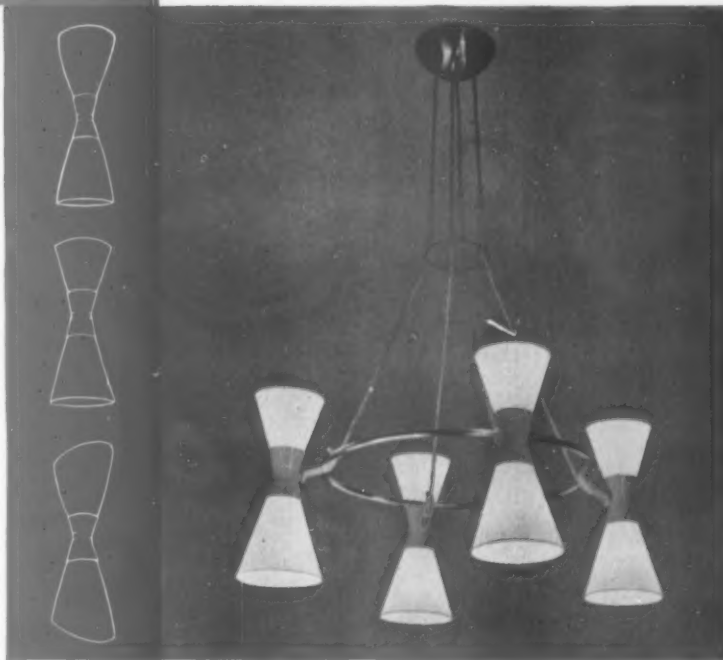
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*Below: F.1084/2. Dia. of ring 1' 9". Lamps: 4 x 40 watts—up, 4 x 60 watts—down.*

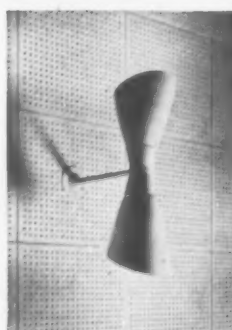
*These three assemblies are the standard combinations used on the fittings giving upward and downward light and comprise an off-white centre unit fitted with straight or angle reflectors, or shades. Other types of reflectors or shades are also used as shown below.*



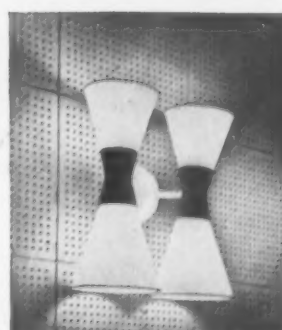
FV.126/5. Length of arm 1' 4". Lamps: 6 x 75 watts.



FV.504/R. Dia. of ring 1' 3". Lamps: 4 x 60 watts.



F.963/3. Height 1' 4 1/2". Lamps: 40 watts up, 60 watts down.



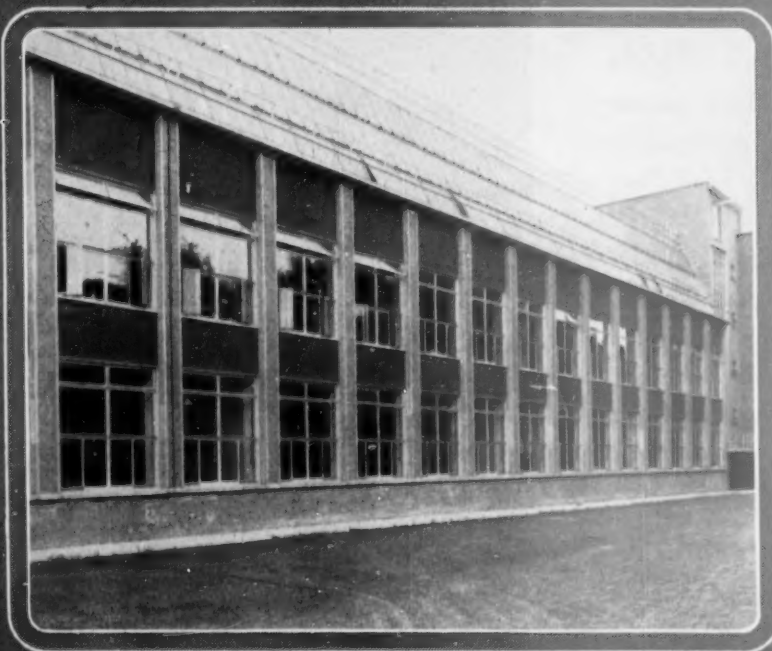
F.956/2. Height 1' 2". Lamps: 2 x 40 watts up, 2 x 60 watts down.

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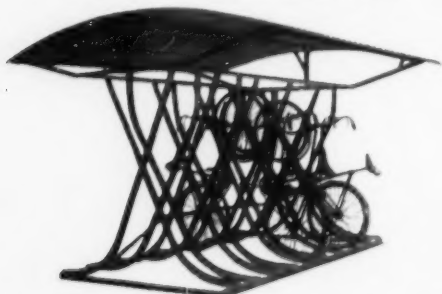
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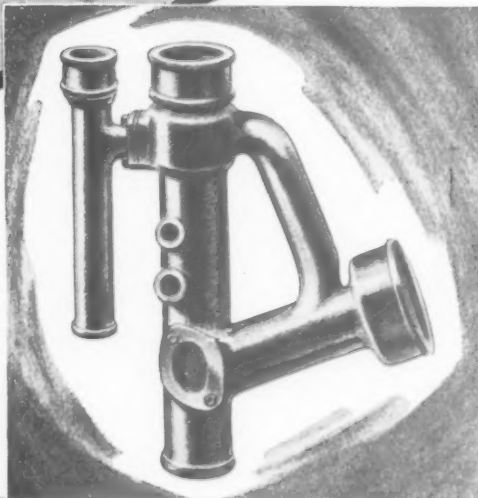


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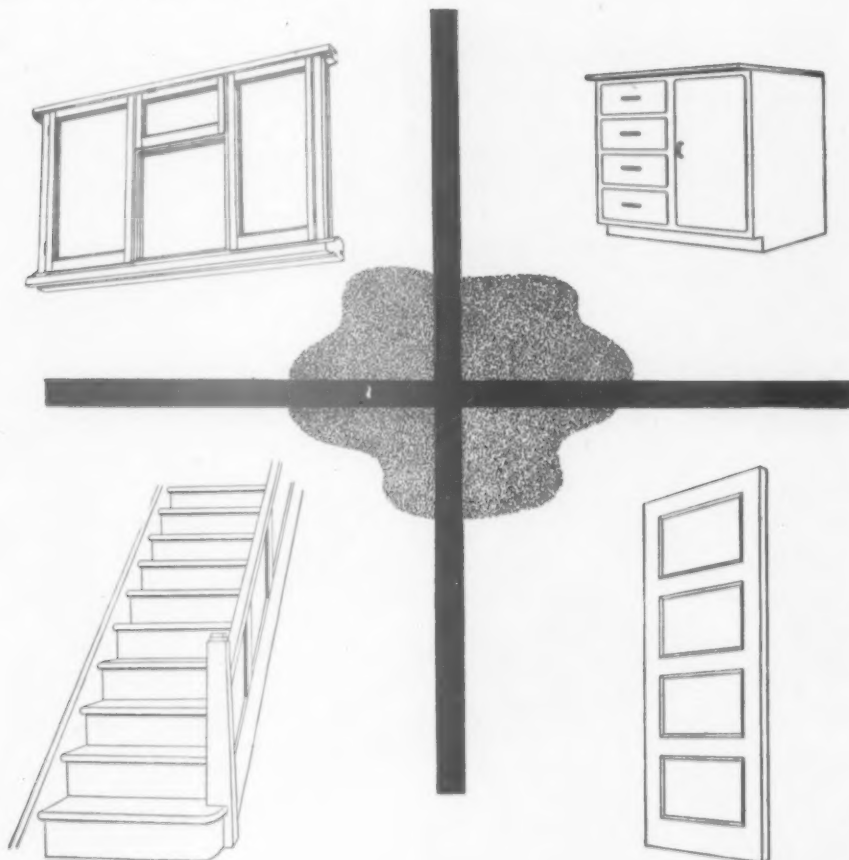
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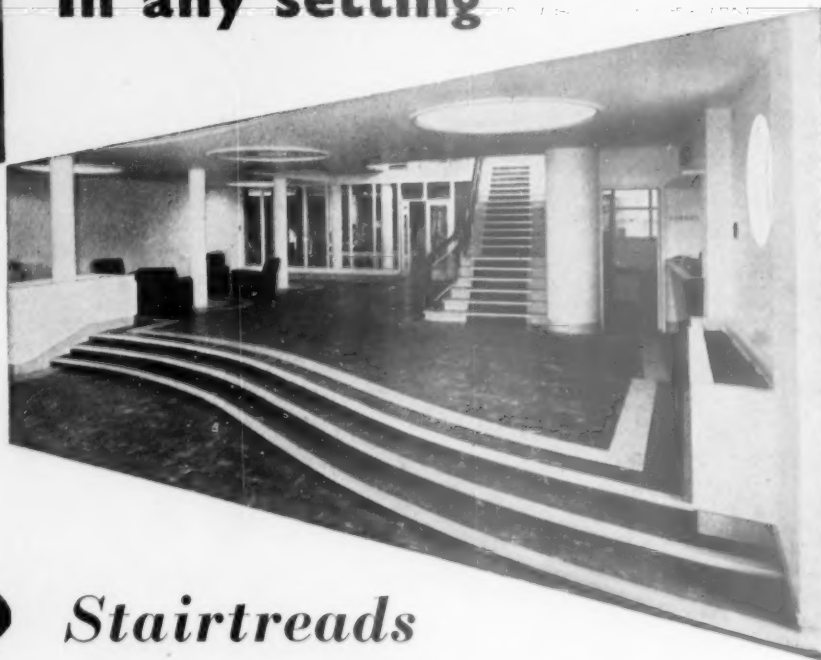
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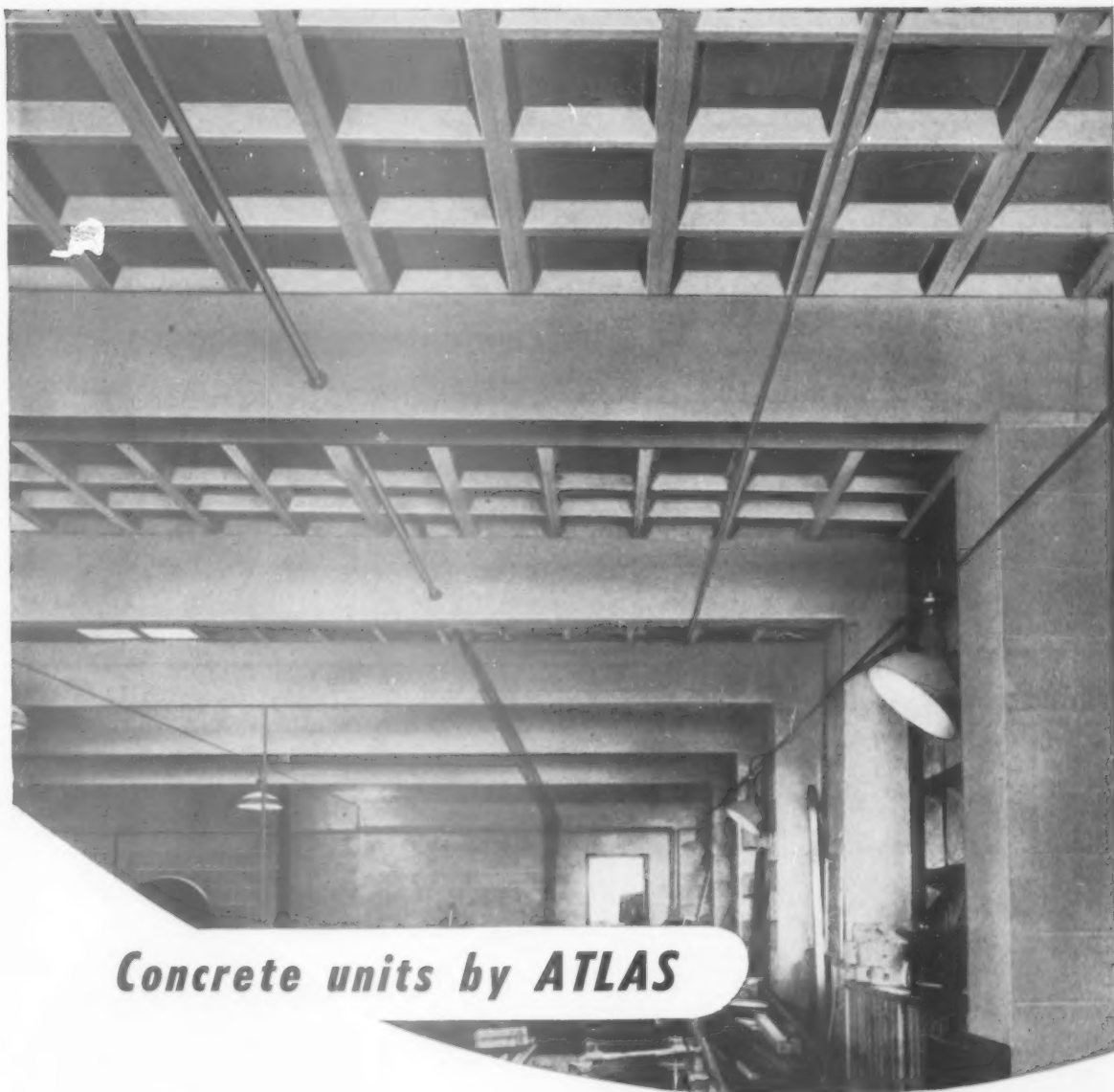
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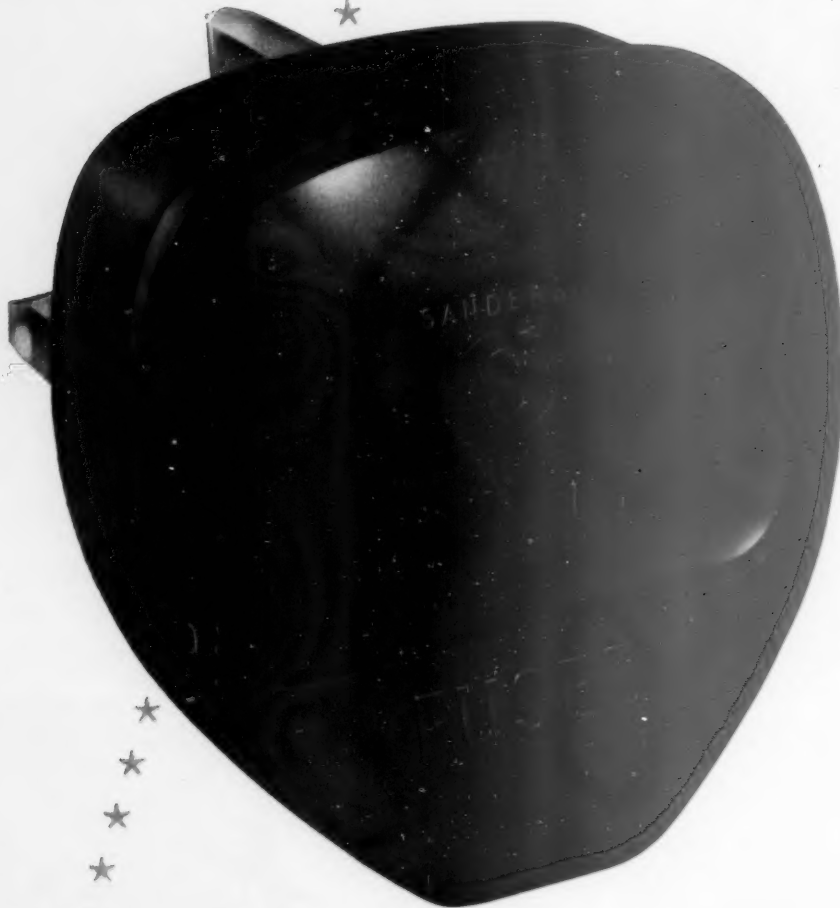
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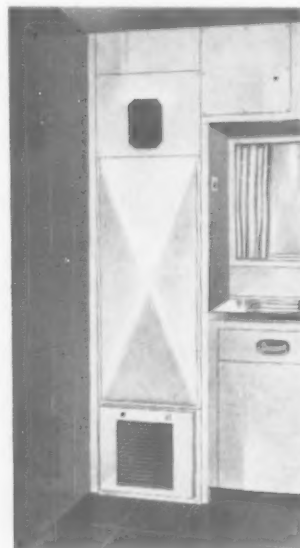
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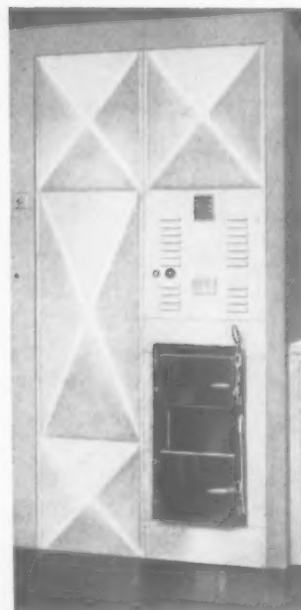
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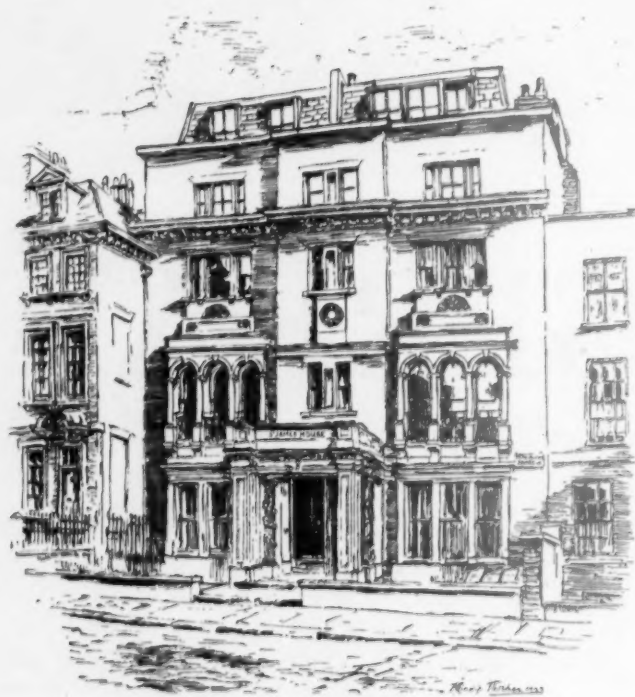
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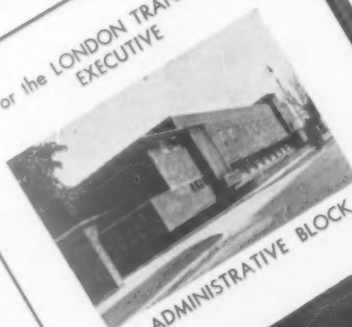


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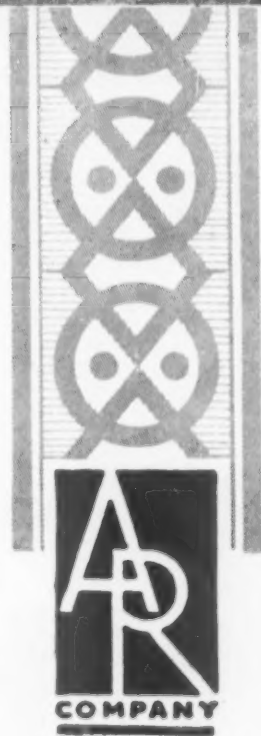
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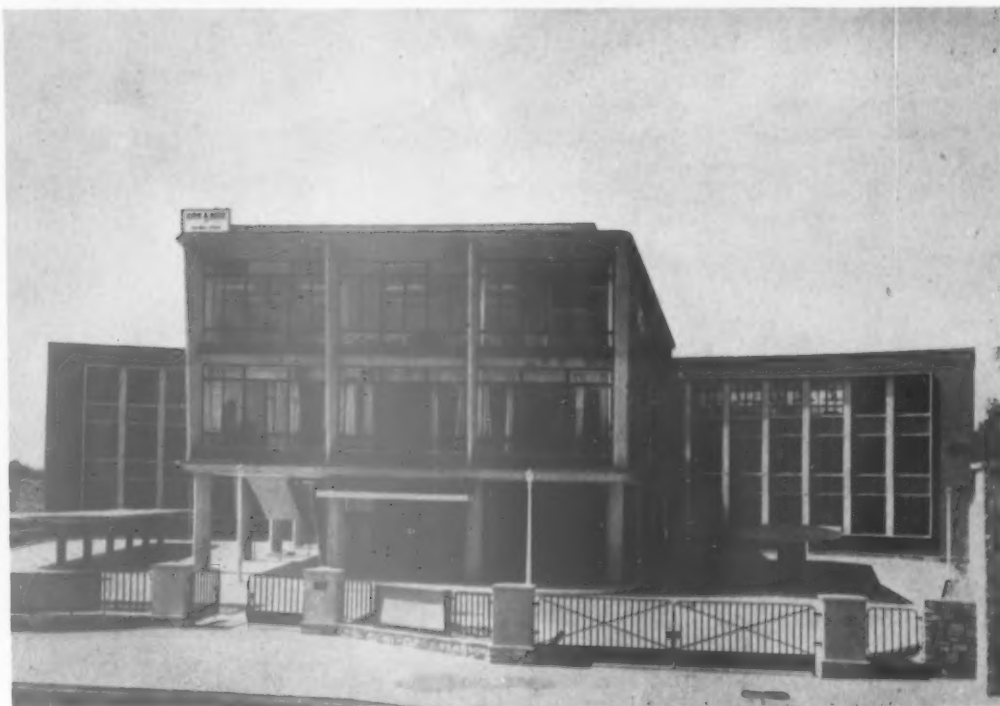
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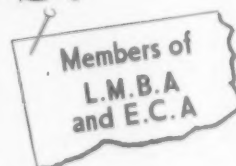


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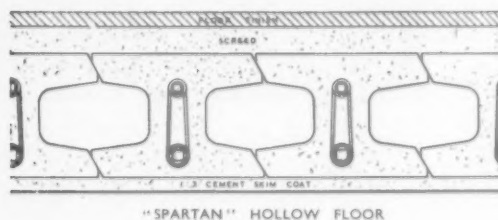
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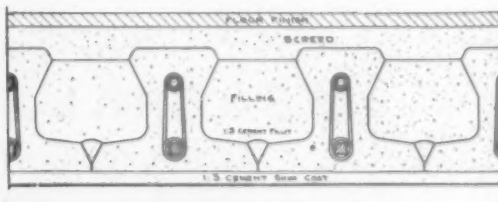
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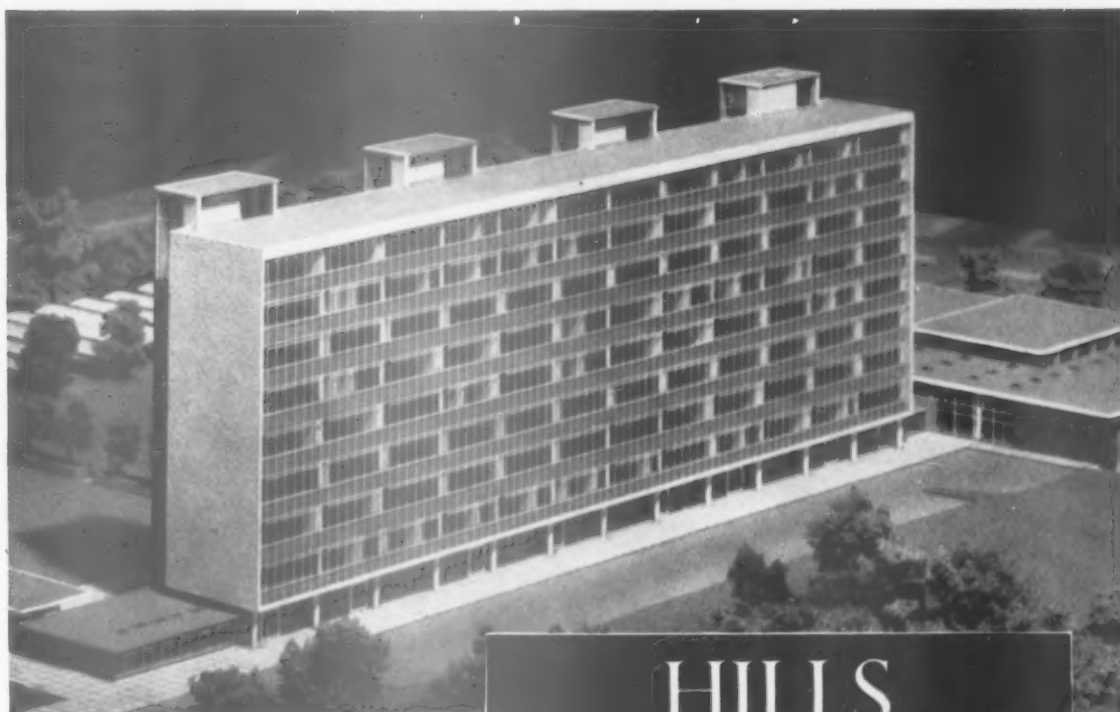
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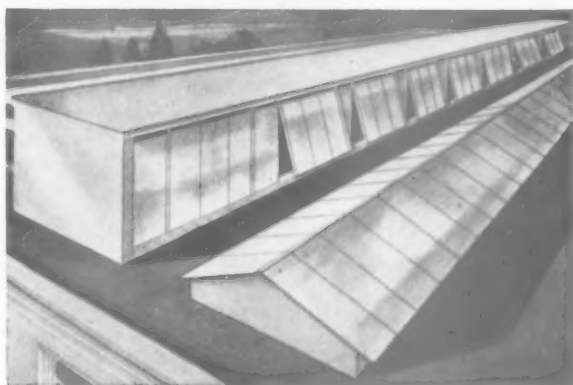


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*Illustration above is of the Strand Comprehensive School at Tulse Hill. Architect to the London County Council : Dr. J. L. Martin, M.A., Ph.D., F.R.I.B.A. Schools Architect : Sidney Howard, L.R.I.B.A. Architect in charge : J. M. Kidall, A.R.I.B.A.*

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## DAVID AND GOLIATH

**I**MPORTANT discussions which have been taking place between the Ministry of Works and the City of London officials and representatives were to some extent summarized by the Minister when he spoke at a Mansion House luncheon last Thursday.

Sir David's main themes were two-fold; an appeal to developers and rebuilders to learn something more about their job and to be more certain in their ideas as to what constituted good design and especially to learn the relationship of their individual proposals to the redevelopment of the whole City of London on lines worthy of its past and its potentialities. Secondly to call attention to the unevenness of the architectural ability which is available to provide the designs and co-ordination necessary to achieve final and desirable results.

While promising progressive licensing facilities for rebuilding the Minister suggested that the City should be prepared to set up an overriding co-ordinating committee for the examination of projects and to ensure relative harmonies in materials, sky-lines and scale. This is a positive and helpful suggestion; even if the developers do groan and object to yet another committee and the City Fathers say they have already their planning officers and consultants and their Planning Committee. It is important that both these sides recognize that there are liable to be two sides of a single question and that a more neutral body arbitrating between them on both aesthetic and common-sense lines, should be acceptable for real progress. The only qualification in a general welcome might be that committees do not produce good designs and, while such a committee might be excellent as a steering body, what is really wanted is a single directive co-ordinator, essentially an architect, acting for them on their overall instructions and responsible only to them.

When the Minister talks about architects he is on more debatable ground, even though he is voicing publicly what many practitioners have said privately for many years. To say that the only way to get better architecture is to employ better architects is also a form of self-criticism. It is an assertion that architectural education is inadequate to overcome the

normal inequalities which must arise in a large professional entity. It is an assertion that general taste in this country is deficient and that general education is to that extent deficient also. Even a Minister of Works, who since his appointment has learnt a great deal about architectural design and the parts that architects do, can and should play in providing it, cannot overcome, with the wave of a wand, the inertia from a state to which he himself has called attention: "Between the wars . . . in indecision, artists either played with weedy classical imitations or evaded the problems of this age with self-centred abstractions."

Sir David believes, and his stand by a belief should be welcomed, that it is not too late, in spite of what has been done in the last year or two, to "translate the mysteries of the City's landscapes and weather into architecture which would satisfy . . . employers (of architects) and excite public admiration." He added "he was confident that the City would recognize the public interest at stake and build a lasting and worthy memorial" as a result of "Hitler's ruins." To which *The Times* next day added a footnote: "No trouble should be regarded as too great if it will ensure that the City does not put up in its haste buildings of which it will repent at leisure."

What really matters ultimately is what has been decided now by the various parties concerned. It is evident that the Government is out to help and its Minister of Works has been unusually frank. Progress must come by enlightenment and by the elimination of prejudice, politics and pandering to powerful pockets. Co-ordination consists not only of technicalities but of goodwill and a willingness to see both sides and ultimately to reach decisions which while they may be compromises are not those that crash into mediocrity between two stools. We can only conclude that the whole matter is still very much up to the City itself; that industry, commerce and finance are quite well represented on the Court of Common Council and that Government and architects are willing partners given the right atmosphere and conditions.



A new three-storey building at Bonn to house the offices of the United Kingdom High Commissioner in Western Germany which has been completed by the Ministry of Works.

The uncertainty about how long the British Embassy will be at Bonn imposed a need for more than usual economy in the design and construction of the new building. Speed was also important to meet the needs of the Foreign Office.

The building has an overall floor area of 42,500 sq. ft and is constructed with load-bearing external and spine walls with simple reinforced concrete floors and roof. External walls are rendered and finished with "Terranova." The principal Conference Wing flanking the main entrance has large patterned panels of blue Musselkalk stone, and applied to one of the panels is a further diamond-shaped plaque of light-coloured Jura forming the background to a highly coloured cast-iron Royal Coat of Arms. The main entrance doors are of mahogany with internal lobby doors of armour plate glass with "crown" etched motif. The whole of the building work on the scheme was carried out by German contractors under the supervision of a British Clerk of Works. Designing was by the Chief Architect's Division, Ministry of Works, and the architect in charge was Mr. R. P. Mills, A.R.I.B.A. The local Associate Architect was Herr Walter Colombo, B.D.A.

The canteen is housed in a separate building linked to the main office by a covered way. This building has a frame of reinforced concrete with a curved roof covered with dark blue asbestos cement corrugated sheets.

## EVENTS AND COMMENTS

### THE R.I.B.A. DINNER

An announcement about the forthcoming R.I.B.A. dinner appeared in a previous issue. It will be held at Grosvenor House, in the largest room in London, and you may take as many guests as you like. I attended the last dinner and remember writing afterwards to hold such a gargantuan affair was a mistake. The proper place to hold the R.I.B.A. dinner is in Portland Place. The holding of a dinner has from time to time been described as the only opportunity that the Institute has in the year for entertaining its official guests. There is plenty of room for this at the R.I.B.A. The atmosphere of the vast room in Park Lane is not suitable for such a dinner. The setting in Portland Place is ideal. It would be far better to hold a dinner of high quality in the proper setting than to hold the projected free-for-all (at 32s 6d a head) in a retired skating rink. Many of the official guests at the dinner will have dined in that room a great many times. Probably not one has ever dined in the Henry Florence Hall

which provides one of the finest settings in London for such a function. What better publicity could there be for the R.I.B.A. than a grand dinner at its own Headquarters? Nor what more banal than an "off-the-peg" dinner at an hotel? To go to a hotel merely because the accommodation at home is limited is to give quantity precedence over quality, a thing that no architect should dream of doing. By coupling the decision to hold this dinner with a decision not to hold a reception this year the R.I.B.A. Council has made a double blunder which many members will regret.

### THE R.A.F. RESERVES CLUB

Architects who served in the Reserve and Auxiliary Air Forces or who are now serving may like to know of the



above club. It provides the usual club facilities and the subscription for London members is only 3gns. At present there is no entrance fee. The President of the club is Air Chief Marshal Sir Guy Garrod, G.B.E., K.C.B., M.C., D.F.C. Full particulars may be obtained from the secretary, 14, South Street, Park Lane, W.1.

#### SAINT GEORGE FOR ENGLAND, SIR DAVID FOR ARCHITECTURE

The Minister of Works made a really excellent speech at the Mansion House last week. I would go so far as to say that it is the best ministerial pronouncement on good architecture that I have ever seen. He trounced third-rate commercialism, and warned against "fat and familiar, mediocre and characterless neo-Georgian architecture." With the issue of licences moving towards £1m a month, the ball is clearly in the clients' hands. Will they respond? Indeed, can they respond? Or has the appeal come too late? Judging from a recent advertisement in *The Times*, plenty of horrible buildings have already been designed and are ready to go ahead. One thing is certain, this is the City's last chance.

#### MR. GREY WORNUM

Mr. Grey Wornum, who electrified us all by his speech when he was presented with the Royal Gold Medal, is on his way to Bermuda for a holiday. I am delighted to hear that his health continues to improve. Everyone will hope that his holiday will hasten his recovery. Mr. and Mrs. Wornum are travelling in the *Britannic*, a ship for which I have strong feelings of affection tinged with the horrors,

for during the war I, in company with several thousand others, spent two months in her on my way to India, and we sailed from Durban on the night that Singapore fell. The *Britannic*, being designed for the north Atlantic trade, is not fitted with nor planned for ventilation to tropical requirements. This, combined with the blackout, provided sleeping conditions never likely to be forgotten by those who travelled in her. Not that there were not many ships far worse equipped.

#### MAIDSTONE GROUP OF ARCHITECTS

The Maidstone Group of the South Eastern Society of Architects is determined to make the town more conscious of architects and their work. They are a fighting lot and two of their members have already taken rejected schemes to appeal. The Chairman, Mr. G. E. Soulsby, at their recent annual general meeting, appealed to the town council to make more use of the panel of architects which was available. The meeting passed two resolutions, one calling for the amendment of the Architects' Registration Act to prevent unqualified people from doing the work of architects, and the other deploring the fact that architectural control had recently been delegated by the County Council to local councils without any reservation that the councils should have architecturally qualified advisers.

#### THE DODO, THE PHOENIX AND THE ROBIN

No one is likely to deny that a revolution in the organization and work of the Royal College of Art has taken place since the war. No one is likely to deny, either,



View from South West of a model showing the proposed Bracknell Town Centre. Chief Architect: E. A. Ferriby, B.Arch., A.R.I.B.A., A.M.T.P.I. The block on the left which spans across a road contains offices. Immediately behind it is a cinema. Beyond the cinema is the Cattle Market and shops leading to Local Government offices on the left and Police Court and Police Station on the right.

that Mr. Robin Darwin has been the driving force behind this revolution. Indeed, the C.B.E. awarded to him in the New Year Honours has put the seal of Royal approval on his work. The Royal College of Art is a success; it is new; it has a thrusting principal and a distinguished staff; long may it last! Mr. Darwin is to speak on his work at the College since the war at a meeting of the R.S.A. on January 20, under the title "The Dodo and the Phoenix." I do not know what Mr. Darwin will say but he could scarcely have chosen a title more insulting to his immediate predecessors at the R.C.A. I imagine that Mr. Darwin may liken the College before his arrival to a dead Dodo and may then draw a picture of the brilliant young Phoenix rising from its ashes; a strange metamorphosis. Mr. Darwin will, I hope, point out that he has had a great deal of money to help him where his predecessors had very little; that he has had Royal and ministerial encouragement, and publicity, on a large scale, where his predecessors had almost none. He will doubtless also remember that many of the heads of the Colleges and Schools or Art throughout the country, from whom he draws his students, were trained at the R.C.A. in the "Dodo" days. Mr. Darwin is an able speaker but whatever he says he is unlikely fully to atone for the choice of a title more suited to a speaker from the nearby Natural History Museum than from the Royal College of Art.

#### CHAIRS AND FILMS

Some 20 chairs in wood and metal designed by students at the Royal College of Art were on view at the Building Centre. There were some very pleasant designs and the exhibition was, mercifully, free from any "machines for sit-

ting in." The workmanship is, as one might expect, very good indeed.

Several of the occasional or garden chairs lean back too much for my comfort. I find when sitting in them that my head is thrown too far back and waves about on my neck uncomfortably.

The Building Centre lunch hour film shows have, I understand, been quite a success. Attendance has varied but the average figure has been in the 60s. The highest figures have been for B.R.S. and other official films, although some commercial shows have been very well attended. The series is to continue through the spring and early summer. B.R.S. films are not very plentiful and, considering their value both in teaching lessons and in their more important role of drawing attention to official publications, it is surprising that more money and time is not devoted to increasing their number.

#### THE INSTALLATION OF SOLID FUEL APPLIANCES

A high proportion of the complaints made about modern solid fuel burning appliances of all types can be traced back to faulty installation. A scientifically designed stove must be correctly and carefully fitted. All makers provide fixing instructions but not all fixers are capable of interpreting them correctly. The Coal Utilization Council has set itself the task of providing one-day courses in appliance fixing at a number of centres in the country. A hundred students recently attended a series of courses held at the Technical College, Wolverhampton.

A B N E R

## N E W S O F T H E W E E K

**H**ER MAJESTY THE QUEEN last week laid the foundation stone of the new Cathedral in Wellington, New Zealand. The architect was the late Cecil Wood, of Christchurch, who died a few years ago.

#### Appointments

Miss A. N. Turnbull, A.R.I.B.A., M.T.P.I., has been appointed burgh architect to Dunfermline Town Council. This is a new position which has been created by the reallocation of duties owing to the retirement of the burgh surveyor.

Miss Turnbull has held, since 1948, the post of planning officer to the burgh. She was the first female town planning officer to hold an appointment to a Scottish burgh.

Mr. G. W. Seddon, B.Sc., A.M.T.P.I., has been appointed assistant County Planning Officer to the County Council of Lincoln, parts of Lindsey. Mr. Seddon at present holds the appointment of Senior Planning Assistant, East Central area, Essex County Council.

Mr. D. A. Goldfinch, F.R.I.B.A., architect to the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board, has been appointed the only British architect member of the International Hospital Federation's Planning Construction and Equipment Research Committee.

Mr. C. Stanbury Madeley,

A.R.I.B.A., has been elected president of the Birmingham Arts Club.

#### Modern Art in Finland

Only two days more are left to see this exhibition at the New Burlington Galleries, organized by The Arts Council in co-operation with the Fine Arts Academy of Finland and the Finnish Arts and Crafts Association. Exhibits likely to interest architects are furniture by Alvar Aalto and wool rugs by Eva Brummer of unusually fine colour.

Below: Chair designed by Alvar Aalto



#### COMING EVENTS

##### Students' Planning Group

January 25 at 6.30 p.m. Talk on "The South Bank Project," by Arthur Ling, A.M.T.P.I., Senior Planning Officer of the L.C.C., at 28, King Street, W.C.2.

##### The Illuminating Engineering Society

January 26 at 6 p.m. Discussion on the Design of Light Fittings to be opened by a panel consisting of Misha Black (designer), Mortimer Hawkins (electrical contractor), Grenfell Baines (architect) and L. A. Phillips (lighting fitting designer). At the Lighting Service Bureau, 2, Savoy Hill, W.C.2.

##### The Architectural Association

January 27 at 8 p.m. Ordinary Meeting. Talk on "The Theory and Practice of Art in the Soviet Union," by John Berger, at 34, Bedford Square.

##### The Institution of Structural Engineers

January 28 at 5.30 p.m. Talk on "Design and Construction of a Welded Portal Frame Warehouse Building Designed by the Plastic Method," by E. J. Callard, M.A., M.I.Mech.E., at 11, Upper Belgrave Street, S.W.1.

##### Royal Institute of British Architects

February 2 at 6 p.m. President's Address to Students. Criticism by Basil Spence, O.B.E., A.R.A., A.R.S.A., F.R.I.B.A., of work submitted for Prizes and Studentships. Presentation of Prizes. At 66, Portland Place, W.1.

## National Joint Council for the Building Industry

The National Joint Council for the Building Industry, at its meeting in London on Jan. 14, carried out the usual annual review of wages in the building industry—as required by its constitution—and found that an increase of 1d per hour becomes due and will operate from February 1 next, in accordance with the Sliding Scale Agreement based on the Retail Prices Index.

The Council heard evidence on a number of claims. These included applications from the operatives for a further general wage increase of 9d per hour and for a guaranteed week of 44 hours.

Other applications were made regarding tool allowances, travelling rules, extra payments for operating and maintaining certain kinds of mechanical plant, etc.

The Council adjourned its consideration of all these claims in order to enable both sides to examine the evidence submitted.

## Forthcoming Exhibitions at The R.I.B.A.

### Photographs of Venetian Villas

This exhibition is to be the Royal Institute's major spring exhibition. It will be on view from February 25-March 27 and will be opened by the Italian Ambassador.

The exhibition, which has already been shown with conspicuous success at Treviso, Milan and Rome, is being brought to London specially for showing at the Institute. It consists of exceptionally fine photographs of villas in the Italian province of Venetia, ranging in style from early Venetian Gothic to the Neo-classicism of the Napoleonic era. There are eight main sections in the exhibition, corresponding with the eight regions that make up the province—Venice, Verona, Vicenza, Padua, Treviso, Rovigo, Udine and Belluno.

In addition to numerous examples of Gothic and Palladian architecture, the exhibition includes a photograph of the remains of Petrarch's famous villa at Arquà, built in the mid-fourteenth century, which was to become the prototype of the first country houses in Venetia.

Prominently featured in the exhibition are Palladio's superb villas in and around Vicenza.

It is expected that the exhibition will visit some of the major towns in Britain after it has been shown in London.

### Exhibition of Polish Architecture

The exhibition is being sponsored by the Polish Cultural Institute and will be shown at the Royal Institute early in April. The exhibition shows the enormous amount of reconstruction which has been accomplished since the war and the opportunities which have been taken to replan and remodel the devast-



CRANES USED IN SITE WORK

Four cranes can be seen in this picture of John Mowlem & Co. Ltd.'s site in High Holborn. The two small ones on the right do the odd jobs, the medium-sized one on the left is only there to erect the giant 150ft Kaiser Wolf crane that dominates the site. Although essentially a mobile rail-mounted crane the bogies have been removed and the tower raised on a steel gantry. An unusual feature is the fact that the tower is stationary, only the jib rotates, the crane driver relying entirely upon hand signals from his "Banksman." As it is now the crane is electrically operated and will lift  $1\frac{1}{2}$  tons to a height of 150ft with a reach of 82ft or 6 tons the same height with a reach of 13ft. The crane may be supplied with a luffing jib, increasing the height under the hook to approximately 220ft in the same condition. The gantry took a fortnight to build and ten days were spent erecting the crane. The cost is in the region of £12,000. An article discussing cranes begins on page 93 of this issue.

tated towns. A large section of the exhibition deals with the rebuilding of Warsaw.

## Gatwick Airport Enquiry

Mr. Harold Macmillan, Minister of Housing and Local Government, has appointed Sir Colin Campbell, O.B.E., former Town Clerk of Plymouth, to conduct the public local enquiry into objections to the Government's proposals for development of Gatwick Airport. The enquiry will open at the Constitutional Hall, Horley, on Tuesday, March 16, at 11 a.m. and is expected to last for at least two or three days.

Formal notice of the enquiry will be published later in the national and local press, and objectors will be invited to send their objections to the Ministry.

Objections should not be sent to the Chairman of the enquiry. The notice will also give information about where maps and other matter explaining the scheme will be available for inspection.

## The War Damage Commission's Work in 1953

The War Damage Commission paid out £38 million during 1953, compared with £57 million in 1952 and £72 million in 1951.

The Commission paid 64,000 "cost of works" claims for repairs during the year, and made 15,000 payments on account. The amount involved was £32½ million of which about £14½ million was for the repair and rebuilding of houses.

Other principal items were: commercial buildings £5½ million; factories, £4½ million; churches, £2½ million; shops, £2½ million.

Value payments amounted to nearly £5½ million, of which £1½ million related to houses.

Total war damage payments by the Commission now amount to £1,115 million in 4,600,000 separate payments. Contributions by property owners during and after the war amounted to nearly £200 million.

## U.N. Seminar on Housing and Community Improvement, Delhi

Mr. G. A. Atkinson, Building Research Station, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, leaves shortly by air for India to take part, as Adviser on Building Techniques, in the Asian Regional Seminar on Housing and Community Improvement which the United Nations' Technical Assistance Administration is organizing at New Delhi from January 21 to February 17. Mr. Atkinson, who is the Building Research Station's Colonial Liaison Officer, is also Housing Adviser to the Colonial Office. The increasing interest of the Building Research Station in tropical building problems will be shown in a display which forms part of the International Exhibition on Low-Cost Housing for South-East Asia, being organized by the Government of India as a background to the Seminar. The Exhibition will be opened on January 20.

## Students' Planning Group

Mr. Arthur Ling, Chief Planning Officer to the London County Council, will open this session of meetings at the Planning Centre on Monday, January 25, 1954, with a talk on "The South Bank Project."

The committee, representatives of students from various schools, colleges and other educational institutions in London, have decided to hold meetings once a fortnight for this session, and they will now take place on Mondays. The talks will begin at 6.30 p.m., but the Club Room at the Planning Centre will be open from 5.30 p.m. for tea and refreshments.



## Review of 1953



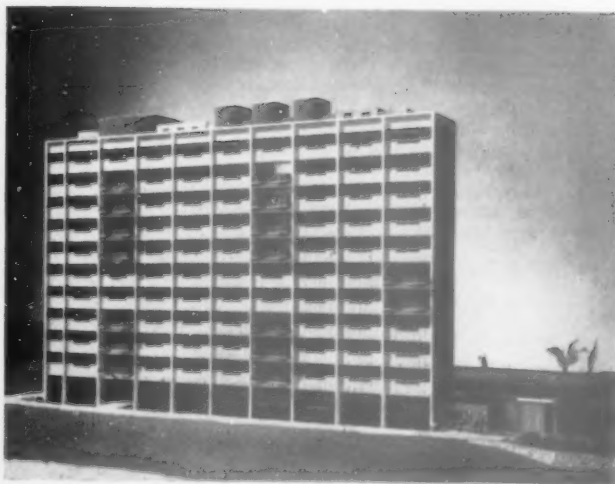
The latest model of Mr. Basil Spence's new Coventry Cathedral shows the vaulting pierced with a bold pattern which will permit lighting from above and is an acoustic improvement. An earlier idea was to have only "star" lighting glinting through solid vaulting.

A photograph of a model of the North West Hospital, Londonderry, showing the S.E. elevation of the Ward Wing. The present accommodation is for a general hospital of 315 beds and will ultimately be extended (to the left of the photograph) to 500 to 550 beds. The architects are Yorke, Rosenberg & Mardall. The reinforced concrete frame is now under construction.

A SELECTION of pictures is offered on the following pages as a sampler of Architecture 1953. As in previous years, schools, housing and industrial buildings predominated, but omens are more favourable for wider variety of buildings in the future.

Progress on the new towns proceeded at hour-hand speed where minute-hand tempo would have been more exciting; the City of London has made strenuous attempts to start rebuilding before the jungle closes in, but if already published designs are any indication the phoenix is the same old bird.

Some clichés faded during the year; others consolidated their position. Buildings for different purposes looked much alike, and the architectural vocabulary was Hemingway rather than Shakespeare otherwise "Tout va Bien!"







2



3

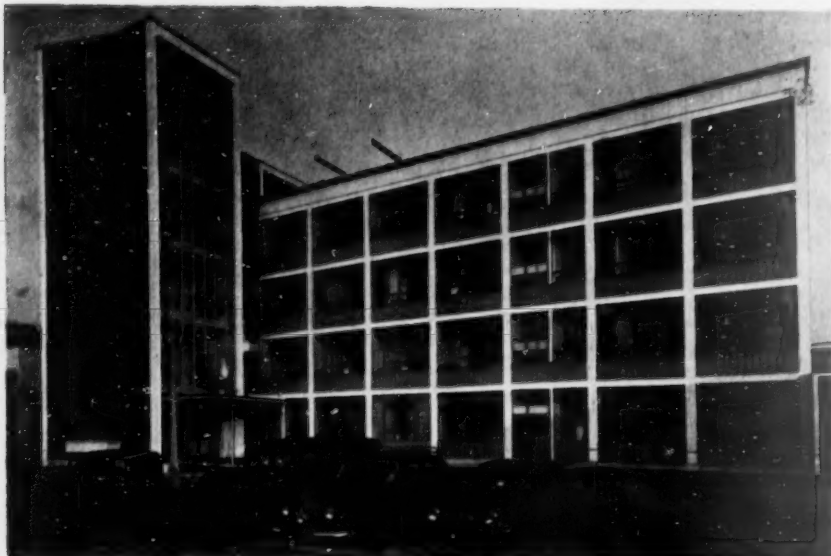
THE three models on this page are chosen as the planning schemes of 1953 "most likely to succeed."

All three reject hollow square planning in favour of Courtyard—Plaza—Precinct planning. In all three the open space flows round the buildings and offers pedestrians refuge from street canyon-chaos.

1. Golden Lane Housing Scheme: architects: Chamberlain, Powell and Bon. Here blocks of varying heights are grouped round partially enclosed courts of different levels connecting with a piazza. The effect is "inward looking," and will provide a variety of changing views.

2. The South Bank Scheme also makes skilful use of different levels and open space, responding in a contemporary manner to the planning of the Temple across the river.

3. At Sidgwick Avenue site the architects, Sir Hugh Casson and Neville Conder, have adopted the courtyard planning traditional to Cambridge in a scheme where "continually changing views and intricately arranged building patterns of different size, silhouette colours and textures, keep the eye constantly alert, interested . . ." There is also in the scheme a raised piazza 300 feet square and a sheet of water, "as an 'off-stage' presence for the whole of the site." This open courtyard planning with its humanism marks the present trend.



## ***Industrial Buildings***

1

*Research Laboratories, W.12,  
for the Medical Research Council  
Professor BASIL WARD  
Sir Robert McAlpine & Sons Ltd.*

2

*B.I.S.R.A. Laboratories, Sheffield  
HUSBAND & CO.  
Rice & Son Ltd.*

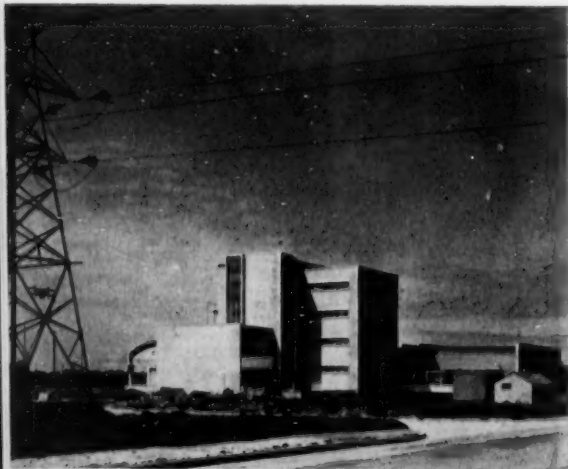
1

2

3

*Klinger Factory, near Margate  
HARALD WEINREICH  
Rice & Son Ltd.*

3



4

4

*Bushill's Factory, Coventry  
W. S. HATTRELL & PARTNERS  
A. Motts & Son Ltd.*





5

5  
*Dewrance Factory*  
REGINALD W. LONE  
John Laing & Son Ltd.



6

6  
*Petrol Storage (Shell-Mex), Pickering*  
BOISSEVAIN & OSMOND  
G. Longden & Sons Ltd.



7

7  
*S.E. Essex Wholesale Dairies, Basildon*  
NOEL TWEDDELL  
Chief Architect, New Town  
E. Hosking & Sons Ltd.



8

8  
*Young Randall Factory, Crawley*  
HUGH McINTOSH &  
PARTNERS  
C. H. Gibson Ltd.

9  
*Nufloor Factory, Basildon*  
CLIFFORD STRANGE  
Charles Foster & Sons Ltd.

9



## Flats

1

*Henry Dickens Court*  
for the Royal Borough of Kensington  
**ARMSTRONG & MacMANUS**  
Holloway Bros. Ltd.

1



2



2

*Paddington Borough Council Flats*  
**ROLF JENSEN**  
Director of Housing, Paddington  
**J. M. Hill & Sons Ltd.**

3

*Flats at Hatfield New Town*  
**BRETT & BOYD**  
**Y. J. Lovell & Son Ltd.**



3

4

*Flats, St. John's Wood, for St. Marylebone Housing Assoc. & Trust*  
**LOUIS de SOISSONS & PARTNERS**  
**C. Miskin & Sons Ltd.**

4





5

*Beechholme Estate for Hackney Metropolitan Borough*

FREDERICK GIBBERD

Tersons Ltd.

6

*Stafford Cripps Estate for Finsbury Metropolitan Borough*

JOSEPH EMBERTON

Y. J. Lovell & Son Ltd.

7

*Flats for Harlow New Town*

YORKE, ROSENBERG & MARDALL

George Wimpey & Co. Ltd.

5



7



6

8

*Flats at Ealing, W.5*

ERIC LYONS

Eden Residential Construction Co. Ltd.

8



## Flats

1



2



1

*Flats for St. Pancras Metropolitan Borough*

*DAVIES & ARNOLD*

*Borough Council's Building Department*

2

*Cremorne Estate for Chelsea Metropolitan Borough*

*ARMSTRONG & MacMANUS*

*Holloway Bros. Ltd.*

3

*Police Flats, Ebury Street, London, S.W.1*

*J. INNES ELLIOTT*

*Chief Architect and Surveyor, Metropolitan Police District*

*Taylor Woodrow Construction Co.*

4

*Friern Court for Friern Barnet Council*

*BRADDOCK & MARTIN-SMITH*

*Matthew James & Co. Ltd.*

3



4



## Housing



1  
*Standard II Detached, Area 3, Harlow*  
HARLOW DESIGN GROUP  
George Wimpey & Co. Ltd.



2  
*Standard II, Detached House, Area 1, Harlow*  
HARLOW DESIGN GROUP  
Crooke Bros. Ltd.



3  
*Police House and Office, Winterbourne, Dorset*  
JAMES HURST  
County Architect, Dorset  
D. Fry & Son Ltd.



4  
*Police House and Office, Burton Bradstock*  
JAMES HURST  
County Architect, Dorset  
Cooper & Son Ltd.



5  
*Police House and Office, Stratton, Dorset*  
JAMES HURST  
County Architect, Dorset  
Rabbetts & Wilkes Ltd.



## Housing

1

1

*Standard II Houses, Area 1, Harlow*  
**HARLOW DESIGN GROUP**  
*Charles S. Foster & Son Ltd.*

2

*Dorset Farm Institute Housing*  
**J. HURST**  
*Dorset County Architect*  
*Watt Bros. Ltd.*



2



3

3

*Northgate, Crawley New Town*  
**WILLIAM CRABTREE**  
*Carlton Contractors Ltd.*

4

*Orchard Mead, Hatfield New Town*  
**BRETT & BOYD**  
*Y. J. Lovell & Son Ltd.*



4





5

5  
Woodton, Norfolk  
for Hoddon R.D.C.  
TAYLOR & GREEN  
Walter Llewellyn & Sons  
Ltd.



6



7

6  
West Green, Crawley New Town  
A. G. SHEPPARD FIDLER  
Former Chief Architect  
Hoad & Taylor Ltd.

7

Northgate, Crawley New Town  
A. W. KENYON  
Rice & Son Ltd.

8

3-storey Houses for Southampton Borough  
WILLIAM CRABTREE  
Frank Bilton (London) Ltd.



8



1

## Colleges

2



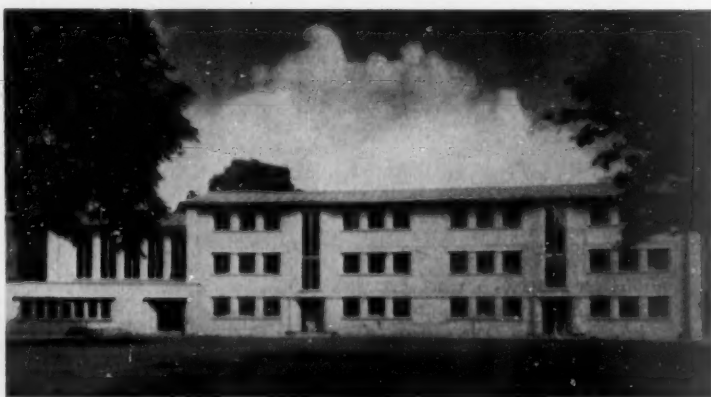
1

*Peterborough Technical College*  
DAVID JENKIN  
E. H. Burgess Ltd.

2

*Ealing Technical College*  
C. G. STILLMAN  
Middlesex County Architect  
Prestige & Co. Ltd.

3



*New Building, Wadham, Oxford*  
HENRY GORDON GODDARD  
Benfield & Loxley (Oxford) Ltd.

4

*Brooklyn Farm Technical College*  
Birmingham  
S. N. COOKE & PARTNERS  
J. R. Deacon Ltd.

3

4



## Cultural & Public Service

1

Southlands Training College, Wimbledon  
YORKE, ROSENBERG & MARDALL  
Hall, Bedall & Co., Ltd.

2

Indian Students' Union & Hostel, London  
RALPH TUBBS  
Tersons Ltd.

3

Out-patients, St. James' Hospital, Balham  
DEVEREUX & DAVIES  
Marshall Andrew & Co., Ltd.



2



4

North Area Telephone Manager's Office, London  
MINISTRY OF WORKS  
George Wimpey Ltd.

3



4



**Offices & Halls**

1

*G.E.C. Building, Plymouth*

SIDNEY R. EDWARDS

Wakeham Bros., Ltd.

2

*Offices, Leicester Square, W.C.2*

DE METZ &amp; BIRKS

H. Fairweather &amp; Co., Ltd.



1



2



3



4





5

5

*Adeyfield Hall, Hemel Hempstead*  
**H. K. ABLETT**  
*Chief Architect, New Town*  
*Brown Clark, Ltd.*

3

*N.W. Area Tel. Manager's Office*  
**MINISTRY OF WORKS**  
*Richard Costain*

4

*Shell, B.P. House, Birmingham*  
**COTTON BALLARD & BLOW**  
*Sir Robert McAlpine & Sons*



6



6

*Territorial Army Centre, Croydon*  
**HATCHARD, SMITH & BERTRAM**  
*Grace & March, Ltd.*

7

*Territorial Army Centre, Taunton*  
**DONATI & TORRENS**  
*Stansel & Son (Taunton), Ltd.*

7

8

8

*Scout Group H.Q., Bromley*  
**OLIVER STEER**  
*Pierce Bros. (Builders), Ltd.*



# *Private Houses*



1

1  
*House, Quintrel Downs, Cornwall*  
**SHEILA TRIBE**  
*Bellingham Bros., Ltd.*



2  
*House, Langton Herring, Dorset*  
**E. WAMSLEY LEWIS**  
*Hawkins & Squibb Ltd.*



3  
*House, Broadmayne, Dorset*  
**E. WAMSLEY LEWIS**  
*Hawkins & Squibb Ltd.*

4  
*House at Helford, Cornwall*  
**C. R. CORFIELD & SON**  
*G. E. Wallis & Sons, Ltd.*

3

4



5

*House at Otham, Kent*

BRIAN PEAKE

G. E. Wallis & Sons, Ltd.



5



6

*House at Studham*

MACFARLANE WIDDUP

E. R. Parish Ltd.

7

*House at Sheen, S.W.14*

GOODY & NOBLE

J. Connolly Ltd.

8

*House at Kingston, Surrey*

ERIC LYONS

C. C. Burton Ltd.

6

8



7



## Public Houses



1

"White Admiral," Harlow New Town

S. C. CLARK

W. Loweth & Sons Ltd.

2

"Twin Foxes," Stevenage New Town.

CLIFFORD HOLLIDAY

Late Chief Architect, Stevenage

Tersons, Ltd.

3

"New Venture," Adeyfield

H. KELLET ABLETT

Chief Architect, Hemel Hempstead

W. King & Sons, Ltd.



4

"Kenilworth Castle," Shepherds Bush

F. W. HANDOVER

Hampton & Sons Ltd.

5

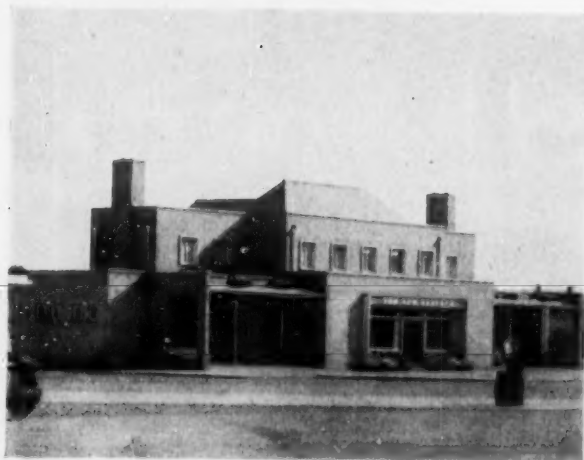
"The Mersey Room," Liverpool

DESIGN RESEARCH UNIT

E. Pollard & Co., Ltd.

2

3



4





5



## Restaurants & Agencies

7



6

6

*Biedak's Delicatessen, Denman St., W.1*

ADAM GELISTER

Premier Shopfitting (Salmons), Ltd.

7

*"The Dover" Restaurant, Dover St., W.1*

PETER SANDERSON & MICHAEL WOODFORD

A. E. Franks Ltd.

8



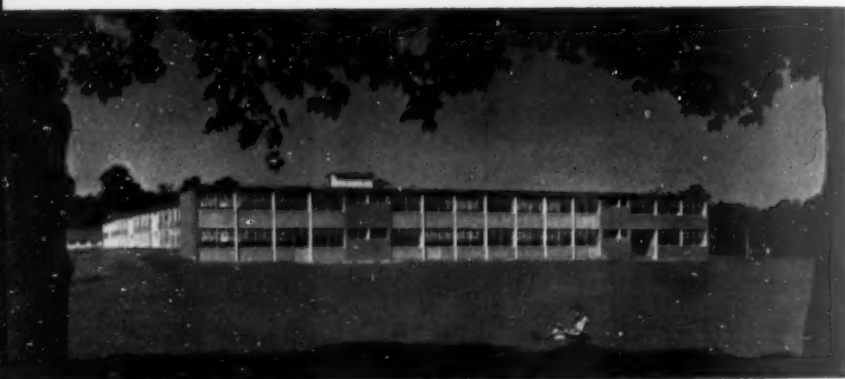
8

*Travel Agency, Park Lane, W.1*

ADAM GELISTER

Ruddock & Co. (Shopfitters), Ltd.

## Schools



1

1

*Cheshunt Secondary Modern*  
 NORMAN & DAWBARN  
 W. J. Lovell & Son Ltd.

2

2

*Queensbridge Modern, B'ham*  
 MARTIN, MARTIN & WARD  
 Thomas Lowe Ltd.



3

3

*County Primary, St. Paul's Cray*  
 ELIE MAYORCAS  
 in association with  
 S. H. LOWETH  
 Kent County Architect  
 R. Corben & Son Ltd.

4

*Cardinal Griffin School, Poplar*  
 DAVID STOKES  
 C. Miskin & Son Ltd.

4





5

5

*Drake Primary, Plymouth*  
**LOUIS DE SOISSONS**  
*F. J. Stanbury Ltd.*

6



6

*Herringthorpe Infants,*  
*Rotherham, Yorkshire*  
**G. RAVEN**  
*Dep. Borough Architect*  
*Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd.*



7

7

*Cofton Common County Primary, Wores.*  
**FREDERICK GIBBERD**  
*J. Harper & Sons (Blackheath) Ltd.*

8

*Oldwood Primary, Manchester*  
**LEONARD C. HOWITT**  
*City Architect, Manchester*  
*Integrated Construction Co., Ltd.*

8





1

## Schools

1  
*Holy Trinity Primary, Weymouth*  
 CRICKMAY & SONS  
 W. T. Nicholls (Southern) Ltd.

2



2  
*Hurst Drive Primary, Waltham Cross*  
 HENING & CHITTY  
 Allan Fairhead & Sons Ltd.



3

3  
*Wyke Regis Primary, Weymouth*  
 E. WAMSLEY LEWIS  
 Theo. Conway Ltd.





4

4

*Clay Cross County Junior School,  
Derbyshire*

*J. DUDDING & PARTNERS*

*in association with*

*F. HAMER CROSSLEY*

*County Architect*

*Morley (Builders) Ltd.*

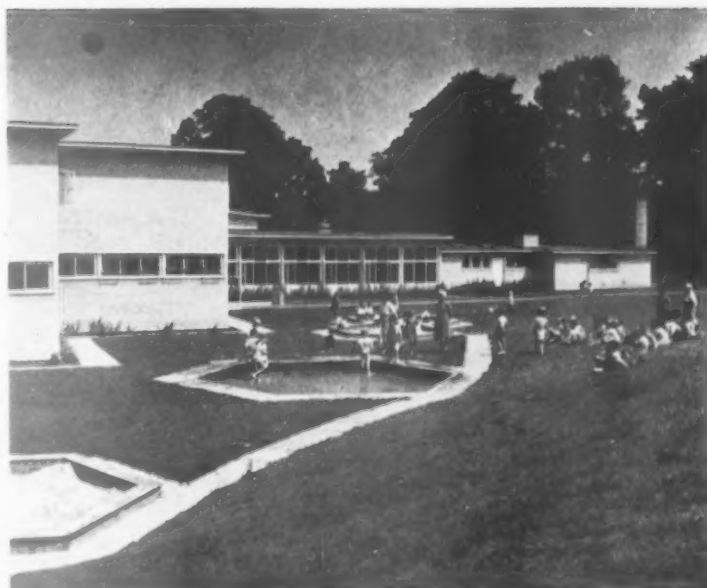
5

*Little Furze County Primary, Oxhey, Herts.*

*GOLLINS, MELVIN & WARD*

*Y. J. Lovell & Son Ltd.*

5



6

*Leighton Buzzard County Primary*

*THE PETER DUNHAM GROUP*

*J. M. Hill & Sons Ltd.*

7

*Kirby Cherrifield Primary, Lancs*

*WESTWOOD, SONS & HARRISON*

*Gilbert Ash Ltd.*

6



7



## Showrooms & Bars



1

1

Showroom for Expanded Rubber Co.  
DESIGN RESEARCH UNIT  
F. W. Clifford Ltd.

2

Bar, Eccleston Hotel, Victoria, S.W.1  
J. LUBICZ-NYCZ  
Gaskell & Chambers Ltd.

3

Bar, Grand Hotel, Birmingham  
D. JONES, D. HINTON & H. L. GLOAG  
Maples Ltd.

4

Showroom for Federated Ironfounders  
SERGEI KADLEIGH  
John S. Parker Ltd.



2



3



4

## Stands



1  
Chance Bros., Ltd.  
H. T. CADBURY BROWN

2  
Armstrong Cork Co., Ltd.  
CHARLES GILBERT

3  
E. K. Cole, Ltd.  
ROBIN DAY

4  
Warerite Ltd.  
RALPH GILLETT



2

3



4

5



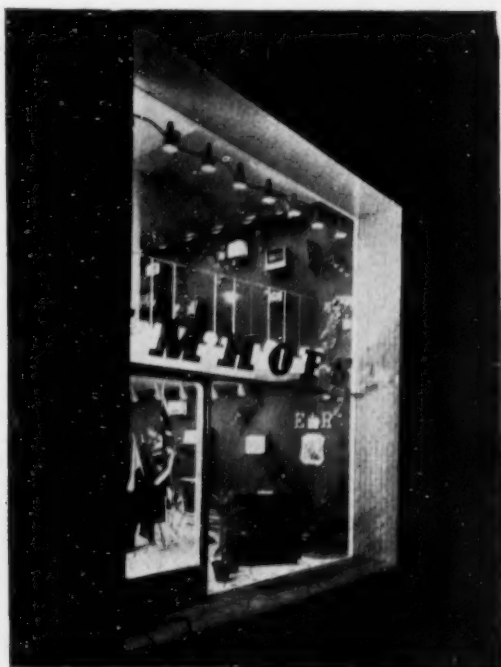
## ***Shops***

1

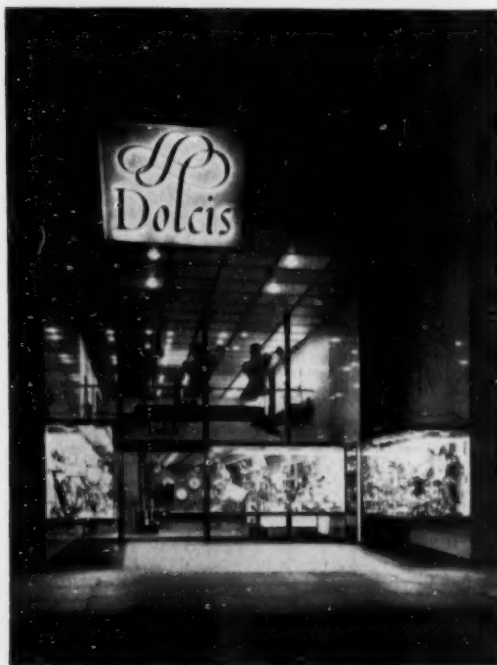
*Shop at Catford*

PATRICK GWYNNE

A. Davies (Shopfitters) Ld.

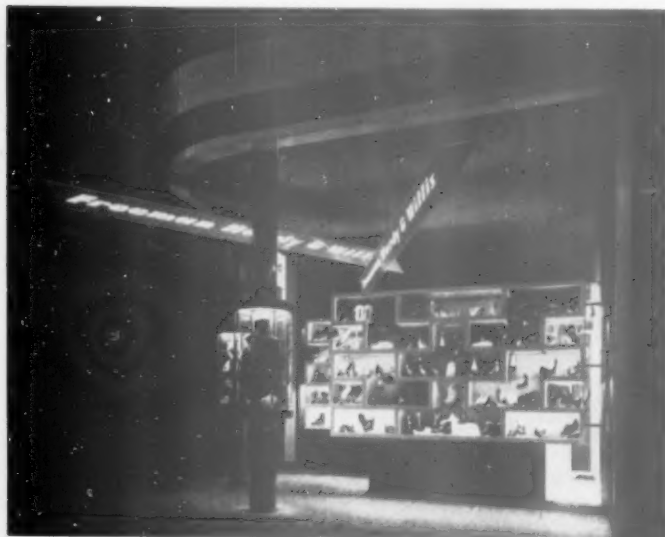


2



4

1



3

2

*Imhofs, New Oxford Street, W.1*

TAYLOR & GREEN

Courtney Pope, Ltd.

3

*Shop in Bond Street, W.1*

CHAMBERLIN, POWELL & BON

King's (B.D.J.), Ltd.

4

*Shop in Piccadilly, W.1*

ELLIS E. SOMAKE

Courtney Pope Ltd.



# Shops & Transport

1



1

Portishead Railway Station  
ARCHITECT'S  
OFFICE  
WESTERN REGION  
BRITISH RAILWAYS  
Charles Brand & Son Ltd.

2



2.

Stockwell Garage for L.T.E.  
ADIE, BUTTON & PARTNERS  
in association with THOMAS BILBOW  
Wilson Lovatt & Sons Ltd.

3.

Cycle and Radio Shop, Liskeard  
VENNING & ELLIS  
Ballance, Metters & Bowden Ltd.

3



4.

Hairdressers, Old Kent Road  
John Barr Styles & Designs Ltd.

4



## Transport

1

Waterloo Air Terminal, London

SIR JOHN BURNETT, TAIT & PARTNERS

Richard Costain Ltd.

2

Car Ferry Terminal, Dover

H. C. MASON & PARTNERS

R. J. Barwick Ltd.



3

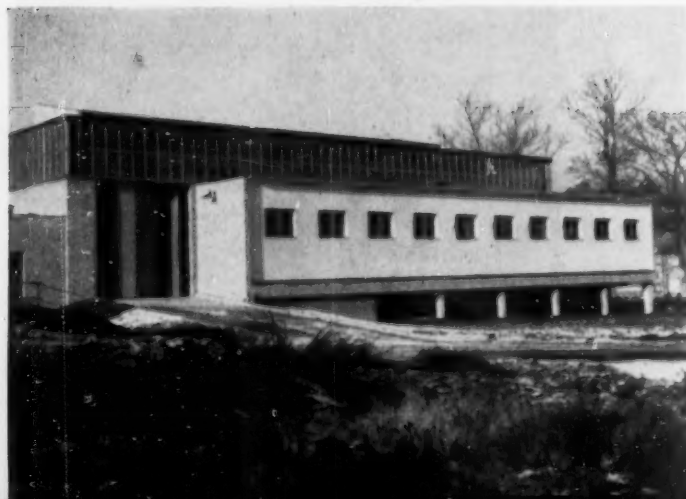
Garston Garage, Herts

THOMAS BILBOW

Architect to the L.T.E.

Leslie & Co., Ltd.

3



4

4

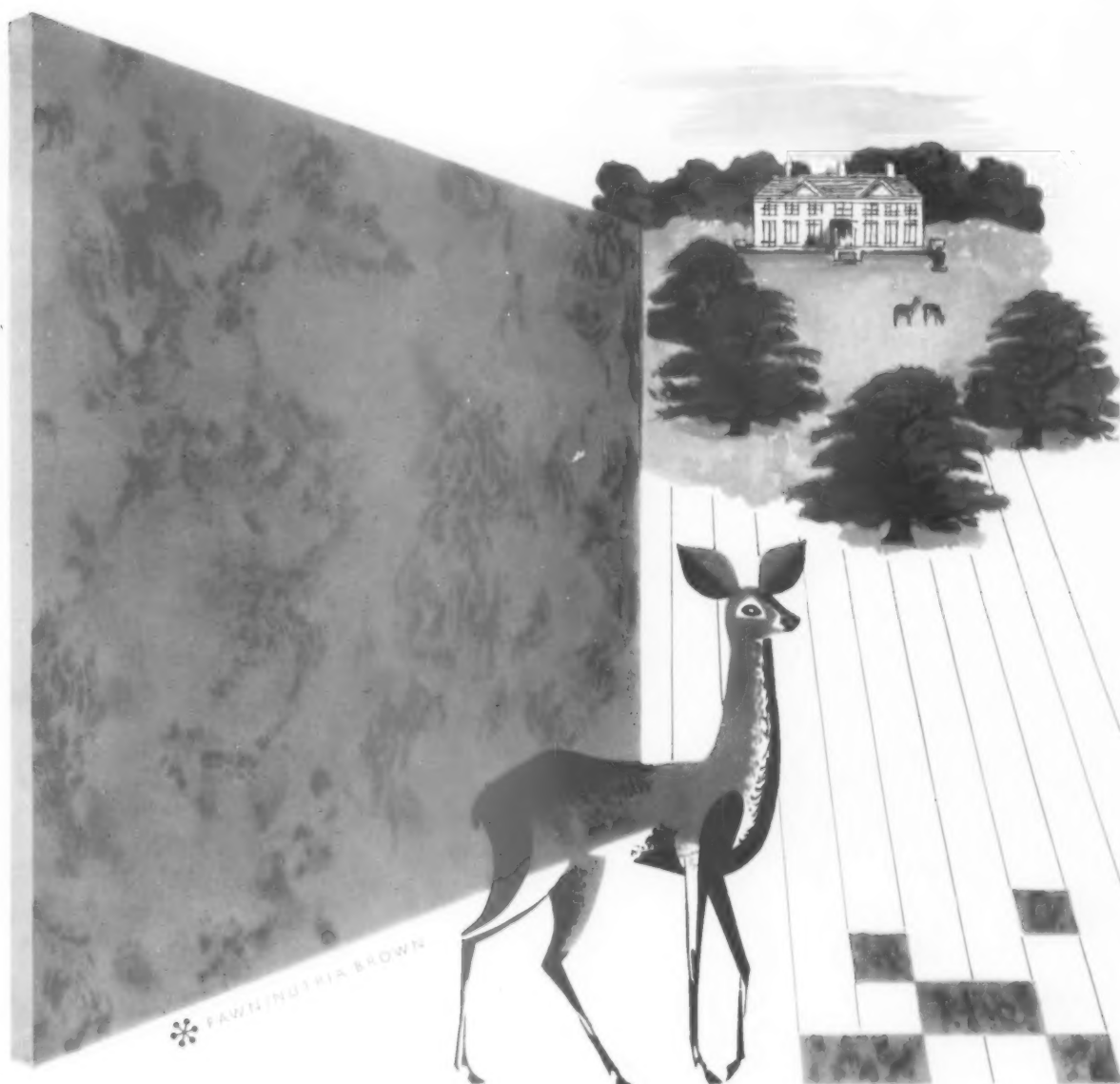
Loughton Garage, Essex

YORKE, ROSENBERG & MARDALL

in association with

THOMAS BILBOW

Gee, Walker & Slater Ltd.



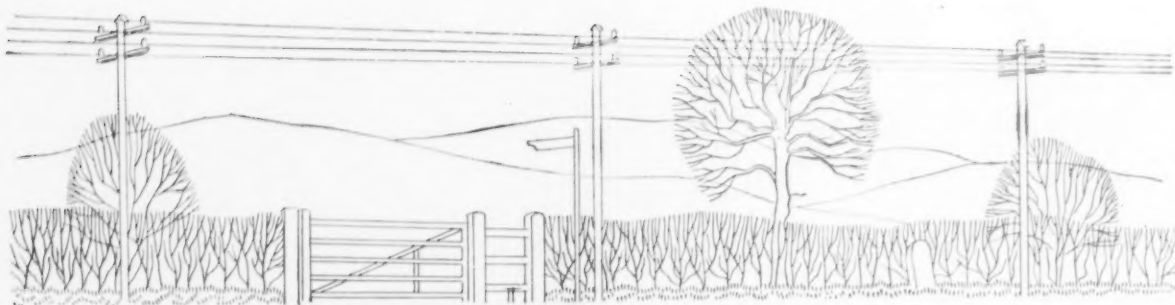
Long ago when Britain was an island of many kingdoms, and the great forests were full of wild fallow deer, the colour of their young was known as "fawn". Today the forests have shrunk to parks or green belts and the deer in England are domesticated, but the ancient colour name is still with us, its shade now precisely defined by the British Colour Council. This same Council has also standardised the tones of nutria, which is the colour of the finer, shorter hairs of the rabbit, the musk-rat, the hare and the South American coypu. Now these two delicate colourings of both foreign and domestic animals have been chosen to provide a tone pattern for the Vinyl tile illustrated. Architects will find that the dual range of Semtex Vinyl and Semastic Decorative Tiles (whose colours were selected in collaboration with the British Colour Council) offers them the widest possible scope for colourful decorative schemes to satisfy both aesthetic and practical considerations.

\* One of the nineteen plain and tone-on-tone colours in the Vinyl Tile range

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are installed by

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Hollis Bros. Ltd.  
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Pilkington's Asphalte Co., Ltd.  
The Penmaenmawr & Trinidad Lake Asphalt Co., Ltd.  
The Limmer & Trinidad Lake Asphalt Co., Ltd.  
Semtex Ltd.  
The Western Trinidad Lake Asphalt Co., Ltd.



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**BUILDING & CIVIL ENGINEERING CONTRACTORS**

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VICTORIA 6624



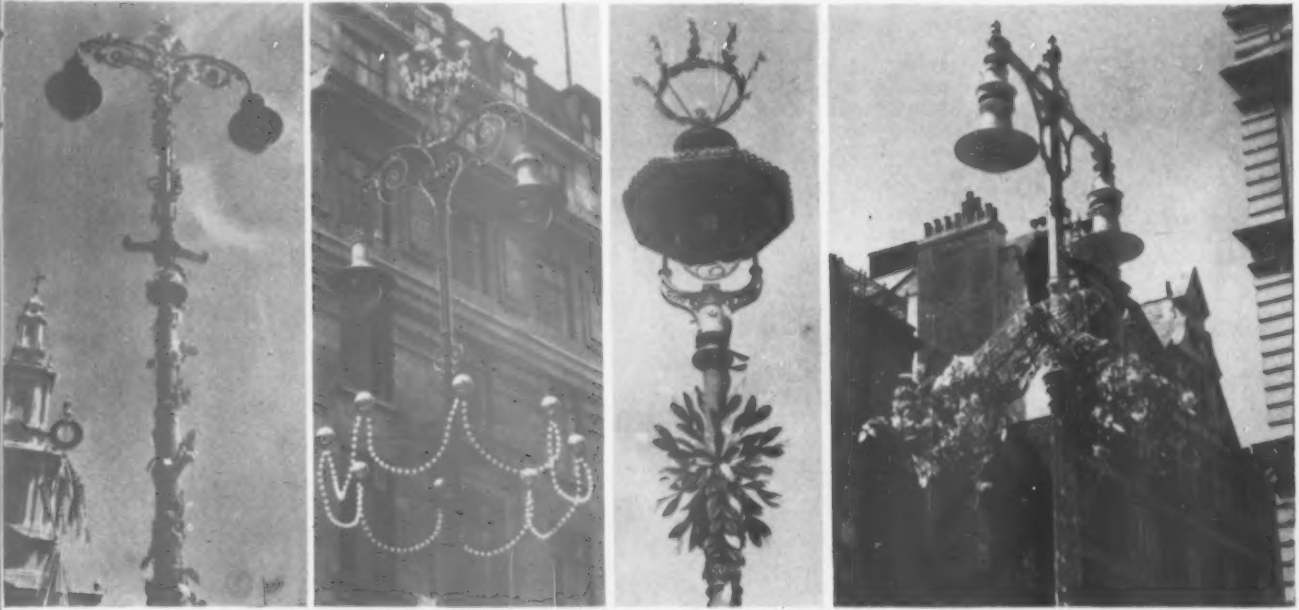


Photo below : Colin Westwood. Others by John McCann.



No Review of 1953 would be complete without reference to the Coronation Decorations. This was the year when lamp-posts burst into leaf, and familiar streets changed from penny plain to twopenny coloured. How long ago it all seems, but it left behind a memory of gaiety that might return perhaps when the air of cities becomes clean and the chance may come to put out more flags all the year round.





1

## Some Public Sculpture of 1953

2



3



4

In several notable instances, the sculptor added a little something to an austere designed building which gave it individuality. The examples on this page are: 1. Virgin and Child on Convent at 11, Cavendish Square, Sculptor: Jacob Epstein. 2. Figures by Charles Wheeler flanking entrance to new Government offices, Whitehall Gardens. 3. Screen by Henry Moore, Time & Life Building, Bond Street. 4. Figures over main entrance, Manchester High School for Girls by Mitzi Cunliffe.



## British Standards issued in 1953

AS British Standards increasingly figure in the information of which architects and builders need to have knowledge, my contribution to the New Year issue is a review of the B.S.I. publications issued during 1953 which bear on the subject of building. This task is somewhat difficult as building covers such a diverse range of products, particularly on the engineering equipment side; consequently I have in the main, confined myself to those B.S. which might be used in general building.

The outstanding publication of the year and one which all architects and builders should possess is the Building Handbook which summarizes 268 British Standards which, although basically relating to housing, have a general building application. The new issue of this Handbook is a great improvement on the earlier issues as it has been rearranged into a number of sections and sub-sections in order to bring specifications for like products together, thus simplifying their comparison. Incidentally it also indicates instances of varying dimensions for similar components made in differing materials, as for example wood and metal casement windows.

The next B.S. in importance is the revision of B.S.1192 "Architectural drawing office practice." Whilst much of the contents of this publication remains unchanged in the revision, there are at the same time considerable improvements especially in the sections which deal with the methods of indicating materials and the symbols for drawings. As I said earlier in the year when this was published, it is extremely desirable that a standardized practice is developed for working drawings since these have to be used by so many different interests on any one job.

In the main field of building, it is noticeable that during this year there have been about the same number of revised standards as new ones. This probably indicates a very definite trend in the Institution's work in the building field. It is obvious from an examination of the full list of standards applicable to building and from the Building Handbook that there are already in existence standards for almost all the normal materials and components; thus the sphere for the preparation of new standards diminishes, leaving the greater part of the work to the bringing up-to-date of those already published. There have been a number of quite important revisions during the year. In the joinery field B.S.1567 for wood door frames and linings is a major revision which has brought the standard better in line with current housing practice. B.S.1142 for fibre building boards is a revision of a war emergency standard to take account of current production. This standard is particularly useful as a means of defining the many types of

fibre building boards. A revision of B.S.690 for asbestos sheets, which improves the co-ordination of dimensions between the different manufacturers, has also been issued.

The revision of B.S.476 "Fire test of building materials and structures" is a most important document, as the fire grading of materials and structures for purposes such as the Byelaws are based on this B.S. Another important change is the issue of B.S.2028 for concrete blocks to replace B.S.834, 728 and 492. It was very desirable, in my opinion, that these three earlier specifications should have been brought together as classes of one basic specification. It now means that all the normal concrete blocks, whether made from heavy or light-weight aggregates, fall within the scope of the one standard. A publication in the concrete field which has broken entirely new ground is B.S.1926 "Methods of specifying ready-mixed concrete"; as the use of concrete in this form has increased very considerably standard methods for its specification had become highly desirable.

A very interesting publication was B.S.1924 "Methods of test for stabilized soil," the issue of which was again very desirable as there has been a considerable increase in the application of soil stabilization. A B.S. which may have a wide general application is B.S.1982 "Fungal resistance of manufactured building materials" which specifies the methods of testing the fungal resistance of such products as fibre boards, cork slab, wood wool slab, plasterboard and insulating quilts. There seem to be a number of situations in building where care needs to be taken to ensure that materials so used will not grow fungi.

In the field of plumbing and similar installations there have been a number of revisions as well as some new issues. B.S.1010 for water taps and B.S.1212 for ball valves have both been revised in order to economize in metal, which should make for more economical products and at the same time retain the high standard of service requirements so necessary in installations of this type. Associated with the latter was the publication of B.S.1968 for copper floats for ball valves. There have been on the market many floats which have not proved too satisfactory in service and therefore a standard based on economical types which will provide long service free of maintenance was highly desirable. An important step in the distribution of water was the issue of B.S.1972 for polythene tubing for cold water; this form of tubing is being increasingly used, so that the specification should serve as useful guidance to those contemplating its adoption.

B.S.1255 for the brackets and supports for lavatory basins and sinks was also revised to bring it in line with

current production. B.S.864, for copper alloy capillary and compression pipe fittings, was revised and in my view very greatly improved. A standard for a further range of copper tubes was also issued as B.S.2017 "Copper tubes for general purposes" and covers solid drawn copper tubes and gives quality of material and the mechanical properties as well as methods of test. For those who use welded steel tubing a range of steel butt-welded pipe fittings was issued as B.S.1965, while flanged pipes and flanged fittings in cast iron are now covered by B.S.2035.

There have been two revisions of standards in the field of glass: first, B.S.952, which is a classification and terminology for glass used for glazing and, secondly, a revision of B.S.1207 which covers hollow glass blocks.

In the sphere of paint and its constituents, there has been a complete revision of all the specifications covering pigments and the bulk of these revisions were issued during the year; it is probable, however, that with the increased use of ready-mixed paint in the building industry these specifications have only a limited interest to the building industry. There was, however, one very important publication from the users' angle, namely B.S.2015 which is a glossary of some 300 terms widely used in the paint industry which I feel should be very generally adopted as a means of specifying and complaining about paint work. As oil pastes for paints are still used to a small extent in the building industry it may be worth while recording the revision of B.S.390 for the coloured oil pastes for paint and the publication of a new standard B.S.2029 for white oil pastes made from a wide range of possible materials, such as white lead, zinc oxide, lithopone and titanium. Incidentally a B.S. for paint tins was also published during the year.

Work in the field of tools and equipment for contractors and their operatives appear to have gathered momentum as some 10 specifications were issued in this sphere. These range from hack-saw blades through wood working chisels and gauges, bit braces, augers and auger bits to tools for soldered socket-spigot joints for lead pipes. An important standard in this sphere is B.S.2037 for aluminium alloy steps and ladders; these are a relatively new introduction to the building field and an indication of satisfactory types for building uses is likely to prove very welcome.

For the safety and comfort of operatives there has been a revision of B.S.697 "Electricians' rubber gloves" and a new standard covering rubber footwear, B.S.1934, a part of which is devoted essentially to the industrial types.

In support of legislation, B.S.1945



was issued covering the requirements for fire guards, compliance with which will meet the legal requirements. While examining the sphere of fuel burning appliances it is interesting to see the publication of B.S.2049 for kerosene (paraffin) appliances for domestic use; this standard specifies not only constructional requirements but also requirements for guarding the heaters. It may be that the use of kerosene appliances is not as great as it was in this country but there are still many uses for appliances dependent on this type of fuel; it must be remembered that a very large part of the world is dependent on this fuel for heating, cooking and refrigeration. For those interested in oil as a fuel, B.S.799, which covers information relating to oil burning equipment of larger size than B.S.2049, has been very thoroughly revised and includes some useful information on storage tanks, fittings and pipe lines.

In the structural field there have been two important and related issues both concerned with the use of tubular steel for building constructions; these are PD.1736, which is an addendum to B.S.449, and Code of Practice CP.113.201. These give the basis of design, fabrication and erection of buildings made from steel tubes but they do not apply to scaffolding.

I have not the space to mention any publications in the sphere of basic materials for engineering purposes although there are many new and revised standards of which a large number have building applications indirectly. In the road-making sphere there have been two noteworthy publications, first B.S.1984 for single-sized gravel aggregates for roads and, secondly, B.S.2040, bitumen macadam with gravel aggregate; little provision had previously been made in the series of B.S. for roads for the use of gravel.

An examination of the Monthly Information Sheets circulated to B.S.I. subscribing members indicates the increasing wide sphere of the Institution's work, especially outside building and engineering which is where B.S.I. is best known to us. During the period under review there seems to have been a very great increase in work in both the chemical and textile industries. These have relatively little direct influence on building but none the less quite a number of the standards issued are of concern to us as individuals. In addition to the work in these fields there has been an increase in work relating to consumer goods, such as domestic furniture and bedding. There has been a very noticeable development in the field of loose equipment for hospitals.

Of the work announced as having started during the period by far the most interesting piece of information is that the Institution is re-starting its work on modular co-ordination. More co-ordination in the building field is very desirable and it may be that a means for this co-ordination will emanate from the study now in hand.

## DUTCH UNCLE

## Building Materials, 1953

THE outstanding and almost universal feature of 1953 was expansion of production, to match increased demand arising from the bigger house building programme and greater activity in building generally.

Though marginal shortages occurred from time to time in the two heavy key materials, bricks and cement, these materials were remarkable for the increases in production which they did achieve. Judging by production figures for the first eleven months of the year, the output of bricks in 1953 must have been well in excess of 7,100 millions and a figure of 7,150 millions is probably accurate. This is easily the highest output since the war and approaches very nearly the peak level of pre-war production, in spite of the fact that some hundreds of the brick-yards closed down during the war have not been reopened. The previous highest post-war production was in 1952 when the figure was 6,623 millions, and the records since the war show a steady build up to the present high level. Similarly, home deliveries of cement were maintained and improved on. Based on the figures for eleven months, 1953 home deliveries are of the order of 9,800,000 tons. This is in addition to exports, and the net availability at home, taking imports into account, was well over 10 million tons. This is higher than ever before.

The same story of expanded production is true of most other building materials and the whole industry can be said to have well deserved the tribute paid to it by the Prime Minister in a speech last autumn. In fact, in

spite of the unprecedented level of demand (with 345,000 new houses started during the year) most materials were in ample supply and, given increased demand, could have expanded production even further.

The production figures of one or two materials are worth mentioning, though at the time of writing, figures for the full year are not available. Based on eleven months figures, plaster board production was 25 per cent up on 1952 with an average monthly production of 4½ million square yards. The production of plaster was over 10 per cent up with an average monthly production of 31,500 tons. This is double the 1947 production and the figures have shown a steady and continuous increase. Roofing tiles, both of clay and concrete, have continued to show expansion and the combined figures show an increase of production of almost exactly one-third over the previous year. Cast iron soil pipes and fittings and rain-water goods both showed appreciable increases and the production of cast iron baths was also up on the previous year.

Steel production reached new heights during the year. November was the fourth month of the year in which a new record was set up and it is certain that the industry's target of 17½ million tons for the year has been achieved. The control on the consumption of softwood was abolished late in the year. Imports of softwood up to the end of October totalled 1,213,000 tons, a volume only slightly less than the figure in 1938.

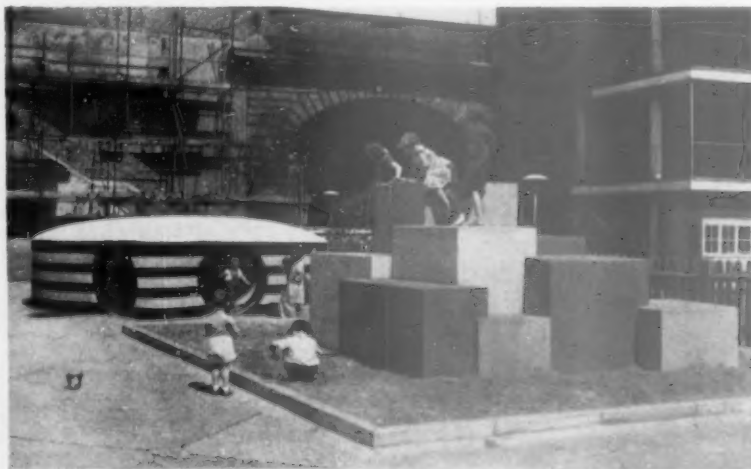


Photo: John McCann

One of the most heartening of achievements of 1953 was the layout by L.C.C. of the South Bank site as a riverside walk and public garden, which included an outdoor gymnasium and playground for children adjacent to Waterloo Bridge.





A large, 63-year-old house was fitted, four years ago, with a modern oil furnace, thermostatically controlled. When oil rose in price a four-inch layer of Fibreglass was laid on the attic-floor. No other insulation was installed, or alterations made to the house or thermostat settings. Yet, in one year the oil consumption was reduced by 44%—a clear saving of 910 gallons, which would have cost £54—more than double the cost of the Fibreglass. And you can insulate a 3-bedroomed house, with Fibreglass, just as effectively for £7.

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# Machinery on the Site. 1953

## CRANES AND THE NORWICH

### EXPERIMENT

**M**ECHANIZATION on the building site is taking an increasing number of forms, perhaps the most important development of recent times is the use of tower cranes. Bulk materials may be moved about the site by machinery of various kinds, all of which require a certain amount of semi-skilled and unskilled labour. The tower crane, however, in the charge of one very skilled operator, requires a minimum of attendant labour on the ground. Its success economically depends entirely upon the organization of the dependent teams of craftsmen.

Before discussing the relative merits of various tower cranes, the research carried out by the Building Research Station in the "Norwich Experiment" will be summarized here and the conclusions examined.

The B.R.S. Department of Scientific and Industrial Research published two notes on the practical experiments in the use of a tower crane. The first, Note No. E409, "House Building with a Tower Crane (1) Operational Results at Norwich," by H. F. Broughton and N. S. Pippard, and the second, No. E410, "(2) Mechanical Plant Used at Norwich," by K. G. H. Fryer and J. F. Eden.\*

Note E409 starts with a summary of the materials and hours of labour involved in the erection of a small house of traditional design. Norwich City Engineer, Mr. H. C. Rowley, co-operated with the B.R.S. and produced the first set of figures of comparative costs which served as a yardstick for the evaluation of the first experiments. It must be borne in mind that in no way was the design of the house or the layout influenced by the decision to use a tower crane, although both these factors may effect the efficient use of the machine considerably, and one can visualize a site layout and a house plan deliberately designed with erection by tower crane in mind adding considerably to the already apparent success of the early trials. The buildings were erected without using any factory-made components. Some use of prefabrication, as apart from pre-building on the site, may well increase the efficiency of the machine considerably.

Quoting from the first note:—

"It was appreciated that the introduction of the tower crane to British house-building would present a number of problems. Apart from those concerned with the design of the track and the crane equipment, such as skips, the most important factors to be considered were the cost of the crane in operation and its effect on site organization. To restrict this cost to the minimum, speed of production would be of paramount importance. One way of attaining this aim would be to apply a high concentration of labour around the crane, thus facilitating supervision and control of the work, and reducing avoidable unproductive time. This concentrated effort would move along the line of production, completing as it went, in contrast to the current practice of dispersing effort over a wide area."

Continuing the investigation, it was decided to buy a tower crane (necessarily from abroad, as there was no suitable model manufactured in this country at that time), and put the machine through a series of performance tests upon which to base the first practical experiment, called the Pilot Trial.

"... arrangements were made to co-operate with the Norwich City Council in using the crane to build 14 houses to the roofed-in stage on the Council's North Park Avenue Estate at Easton Park, Norwich. It was agreed that the Building Research Station should prepare a programme and plan of organization acceptable to the City Engineer, and should observe the test and record any date desired."

It is of note that Norwich City Council had, on the advice of the City Engineer, already decided to buy a rail-mounted

\* Crown Copyright Reserved.



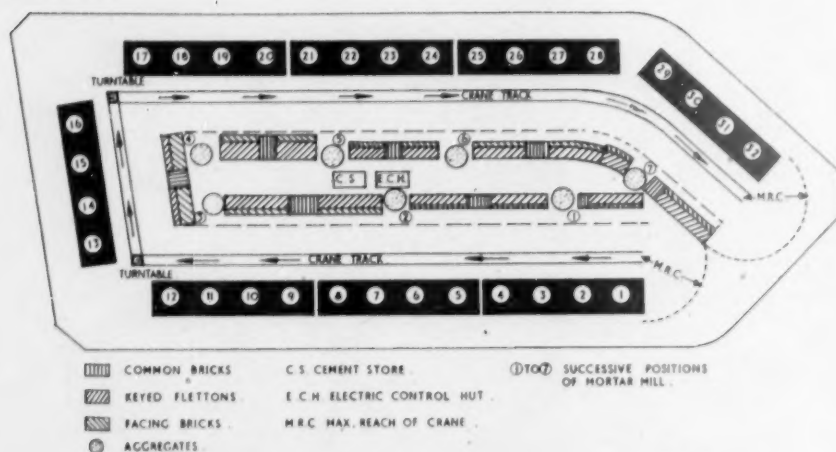
During the experiment at Norwich, not only were building techniques and site organization under scrutiny, the crane itself was examined carefully and its performance closely watched. The crane chosen, shown above on the Norwich site, was the Liebherr, subsequently imported by Thos. C. Wild & Co. Ltd.; it has since been modified and improved, and appears on the market today as the Wild-Fawcett Crane. Its characteristics then were:—

Hook load cwt.	10 cwt.	15 cwt.	22 cwt.
Radius in ft. ... ..	39.4	24.6	13.1
Max. Hook height ft. ... ..	42.6	65.6	72.2
Holisting speed ft./min. ... ..	102	64	64

Track gauge: 6ft 6½in. Wheel base: 6ft 6½in.  
Weight unballasted: 4½ tons. Weight with ballast: 13½ tons.  
Slewing speed: 1.3 r.p.m. Travelling speed 88ft/min.  
Min. radius of curved track: 120ft

Its power is derived from an electric motor requiring 440V. 3-phase supply and having an average consumption of 3 kW., peak load is 7½ kW. Points which came to light during the experiment were that too light a rail was dangerous, 60lb/yd rail on 10 x 5in sleepers at 2ft 6in centres being optimum. Cornering required attention, 120ft radius to the inside rail was the minimum, using a greased rail. For this reason a turntable was designed that took 7½ minutes to use. Liebherr cranes are self erecting; two models are made. No. 8, described above and No. 14, very similar but slightly larger. The Wild-Fawcett Cranes embody several refinements to give better performance generally and include a new hydraulic overload safety device. Cost to-day, £2,450 and £3,800 for the small and large models respectively.

## CRANES : 1953



The layout of the building site at Norwich used for the Production Run. Note the position of the Electric Control Hut in the centre of the site; the power cable supplying the crane was carried on simple tripods 10ft above ground level to the approximate centre of the crane's activities. A loose lead lay on the ground allowing the crane reasonable flexibility of movement on its track.

Fig. 1

crane to assist in their housing programme. Among the data supplied by the City Engineer were the estimates that a house shell would be erected in 875 Labour man-hours, and that the average number of bricks laid in an 8-hour day was 350. The Pilot Trial was carried out by the City Engineers' Staff in the ordinary way, with the assistance of a technical officer from the B.R.S. resident on the site.

The performance, planned and achieved, is shown:—

TABLE I.

Manhours per house-shell in Pilot Trial

	Manhours actually taken	Manhours in Programme
(1) Erect crane and lay track ...	27	22
(2) Excavate, back fill and place hardcore ...	40	45
(3) All brickwork to roofed-in stage ...	438	457
(4) Scaffolding ...	49	48
(5) First floor joists and roof carcassing ...	42	45
(6) Roof covering (felt, battens and tiles) ...	43	44
(7) Materials, handling and concreting ...	217	179
(8) Crane driver on above operations ...	36	35
Totals per house-shell to roofed-in stage ...	892	875
Building time (days) ...	57 (9 hrs.)	62 (8 hrs.)

"Items 1-6 inclusive show only the manhours of the skilled or semi-skilled operatives engaged in the work described. All labourers' times in concreting, handling materials, spoil disposal, or other labouring work, are shown in Item 7. Item 8 shows the hours spent by the crane in handling materials, maintenance, breakdown and idle time."

The 20 per cent error in 7 was due to the employment of extra labour during hot weather to retemper mortar and also to a certain shortage of scaffolding.

The Pilot Trial being concluded satisfactorily, a production run was planned, using the information thus gained.

The layout of the Production Run, shown in Fig. 1, was not complicated; the site was level, a very important point with these top-heavy machines, and the housing terraces were in straight runs of at least four houses in one plane, 90 deg. changes in direction were accomplished by specially



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BRAYDA

Self erecting electric tower crane, will lift 29.5cwt to a height of 70ft 6in at maximum reach of 65ft 6in. Maximum load 3 tons 9cwt to 131ft (Hook Height) with 20ft radius. Power derived from four individual electric motors, one for each movement of the crane, varying from 3 to 19 h.p. Weight including ballast, 35 tons 8cwt, without ballast 18 tons 18cwt. The cabin can be raised in 6ft steps by hand winch. Erection time, 2 days with 8 men. Cost £6,750.



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designed turntables, a 45 deg change was managed by curving the track. The programme, described by the report:—

TABLE II. FOUNDATIONS AND SHELLS TO ROOFED-IN STAGE

Stage	Men	Hrs.	Days	Total Hours
Excavate Foundations ...	10	8	8	640
Concrete Foundations ...	6	8	8	384
Brickwork to D.P.C. ...	12	8	16	1,536
Backfill and Hardcore ...	10	8	8	640
Concrete Floor Slab ...	6	8	8	384
Crane Driver ...	1	8	80	640
Material Gang ...	6	8	71	3,408
Lay Track and Erect Crane ...	—	—	—	672
Material Gang Overtime ...	—	—	—	394
Crane Maintenance ...	—	—	—	78
Brickwork to Shell ...	24	8	64	12,288
Scaffolding ...	3	8	76	1,824
Carpentry ...	4	8	67	2,144
Roof Tiling ...	3	8	53	1,272
<b>TOTAL FOUNDATIONS AND SHELLS</b>				<b>26,304</b>

## EXTERNAL SITE WORKS

	Men	Hrs.	Days	Total Hours
Site Works ...	12	8	85	8,160

## FINISHINGS

Stage	Men	Hrs.	Days	Total Hours
Plumber ...	—	—	—	3,872
Carpenter 1st Fix. ...	4	8	64	2,048
Carpenter 2nd Fix. ...	6	8	71	3,408
Bricklayer 1st Fin. ...	9	8	64	4,608
Bricklayer 2nd Fin. ...	3	8	58	1,392
Plasterer I ...	3	8	64	1,536
Plasterer II ...	7	8	64	3,584
Painter I ...	1	8	64	512
Painter II ...	8	8	72	4,608
Electrician S/C ...	—	—	—	1,536
Gas Carcase S/C ...	—	—	—	192
Floor Layers S/C ...	—	—	—	192
<b>TOTAL FINISHINGS</b>				<b>27,488</b>

## SUMMARY

Foundations and Shell ...	26,304
Finishings ...	27,488
Site Works ...	8,160
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>61,952</b>

STAGE	no. of men	WORKING DAYS OF 8 HOURS
1 trench excavation	10	8
2 concrete to trenches	6	8
3 brickwork to d.p.c.	12	16
4 brickwork & hardcore	10	8
5 conc. in floor slab	6	8
6 crane driver	1	80
7 material handy gang	6	71
8 brickwork	24	64
9 scaffolding	3	76
10 1st fl joists & roof carp	4	64
11 1st battens & tiles	3	64
12 plumbing & e.w.c.	2	64
13 1st fixings carpenter	4	64
14 painting & eaves etc	1	64
15 1st finisher bricklayer	9	64
16 plaster & set ceilings	3	64
17 plastering walls	7	64
18 2nd finisher bricklayer	3	64
19 2nd fixings carpenter	6	64
20 plumbing	7	64
21 painting ext & internal	8	64
22 electrician	2	64
23 site works paths etc	12	64
24 gas carcaseing	1	64
25 floor finisher	2	64



BRUN &amp; CO. LTD., SWITZERLAND.

BRUN TOWER CRANE

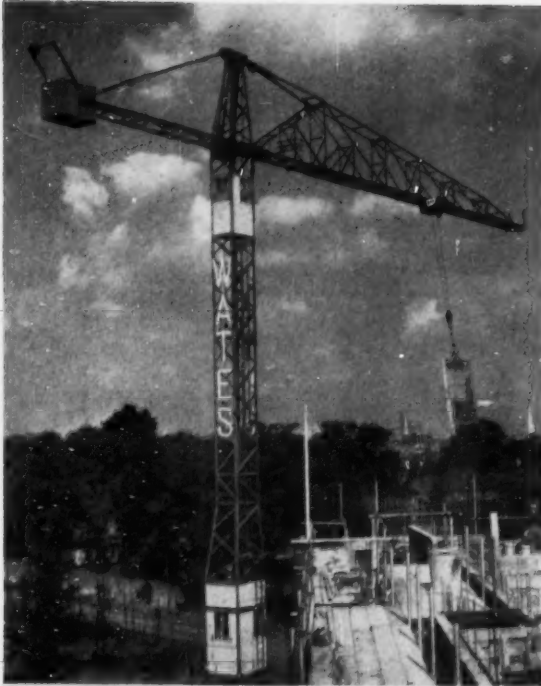
A self-erecting electric tower crane. It is claimed that it can be dismantled and re-erected in one day. The crane will lift 16 cwt., 58½ ft with a reach of 52 ft. Maximum load is 2 tons lifted to 100 ft with a reach of 19 ft 6 in. Power is derived from three electric motors 3, 6 and 11 kW., total loading 20 kW. The working weight is 13 tons and includes 7½ tons of ballast. The cost is £6,000 including import dues.

The upper picture illustrates dismantling in an unrestricted area. The pulley end of the jib rests on a small rubber wheeled trolley which assists the run-out of the jib as the mast is lowered. At the end of the operation the main sub structure remains static and the mast and jib are fully extended on the ground.

The lower picture shows the method of dismantling the crane in restricted areas. The jib has been lowered and folded back against the mast to which it is secured. The mast and jib are then lowered to the ground by the crane's own motive power, or by hand cranking.

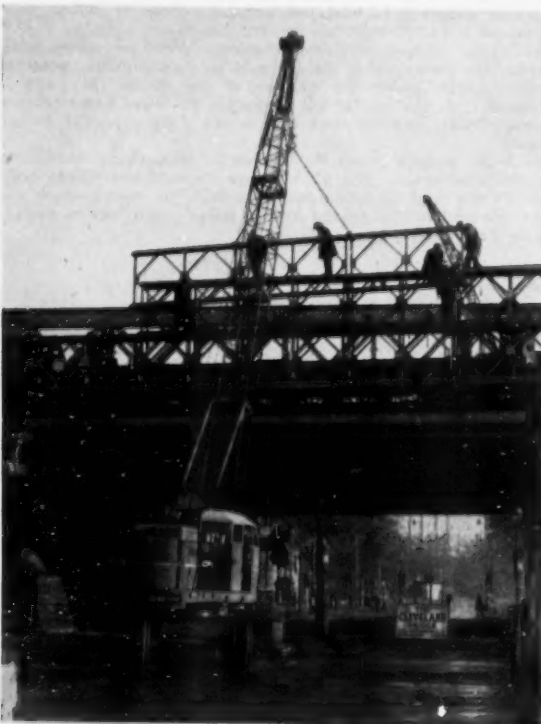


## CRANES : 1953



JULES WEITZ TYPE 45 MONO-TOWER CRANE  
Importers: Machinery (Continental) Ltd.

An electrically operated mobile tower crane, made in various sizes. That illustrated, the 45, can lift 30cwt 98ft 5in with a reach of 82ft. Maximum load is 4 tons to the same height with a reach of 13ft 11in. With an extra length inserted in the tower all the heights can be increased by 14ft 5in, with a raisable jib the maximum height is increased to 175ft. Motive power is from five separate electric motors. Cost c.i.f. London Docks £9,045.



"The 32 houses were to be in two terraces of 12 and two blocks of four, around the perimeter of a roughly rectangular site. The houses were of an average floor area of 920 sq ft superficial area, and each contained the work content of approximately 20,000 bricks. They were of conventional design and construction and presented no unusual features.

"For the purposes of programming, the work was considered in three distinct groups of operations, i.e., the shells including foundations, to the roofed-in stage, the interior finishings and the site works, and the three sections were linked in one master programme, Table 2. In this way the finishings and site works were phased with the completion of shells, the construction of which was the only work directly controlled by the crane."

And the intention:—

"The aims of the programme were the completion of the houses in the shortest possible time consistent with economy and good workmanship, the reduction of unproductive time to a minimum and the most efficient employment of the labour force. The programme in each case depended on the time taken by the longest or 'key' operation since there would have been little advantage in speeding up any one trade if the others could not keep pace."

TABLE III.

Programmed manhours for Production Run

Operation Group	Total	Per House
(1) Foundations and Shells to Roofed-in Stage ... ..	26,304	822
(2) Internal Finishings to Completion ... ..	27,488	859
(3) External Site Works ... ..	8,160	255
Total Programmed Manhours ...	61,952	1,936

The programme, although rigid in its intention, was sufficiently flexible by the manipulation of the labour force, from such ancillary work as the building of manholes, out-houses and the pre-building of stacks, to, in the other extreme, working overtime on the house shell when time became short.

It is worth pointing out that everything necessary for 12 houses was delivered to the site, the rest was ordered well in advance and all smaller pieces of building plant were on the site before the crane appeared. Two foremen were employed, one was responsible for the crane and the exteriors, the other for interiors. Sufficient scaffolding for six houses was in continuous use, the only labour on the site were six men attending the crane and latterly, a tiler's mate.

It was discovered during the operation that

"The importance of the crane-driver's position in the organization cannot be over-emphasized. He virtually controls the programme and it was found necessary to inform him of any variation in the duties of the various gangs and of any need to correct the speed of progress."

Although this was the first production run, a certain amount of prefabrication, both on and off the site was carried

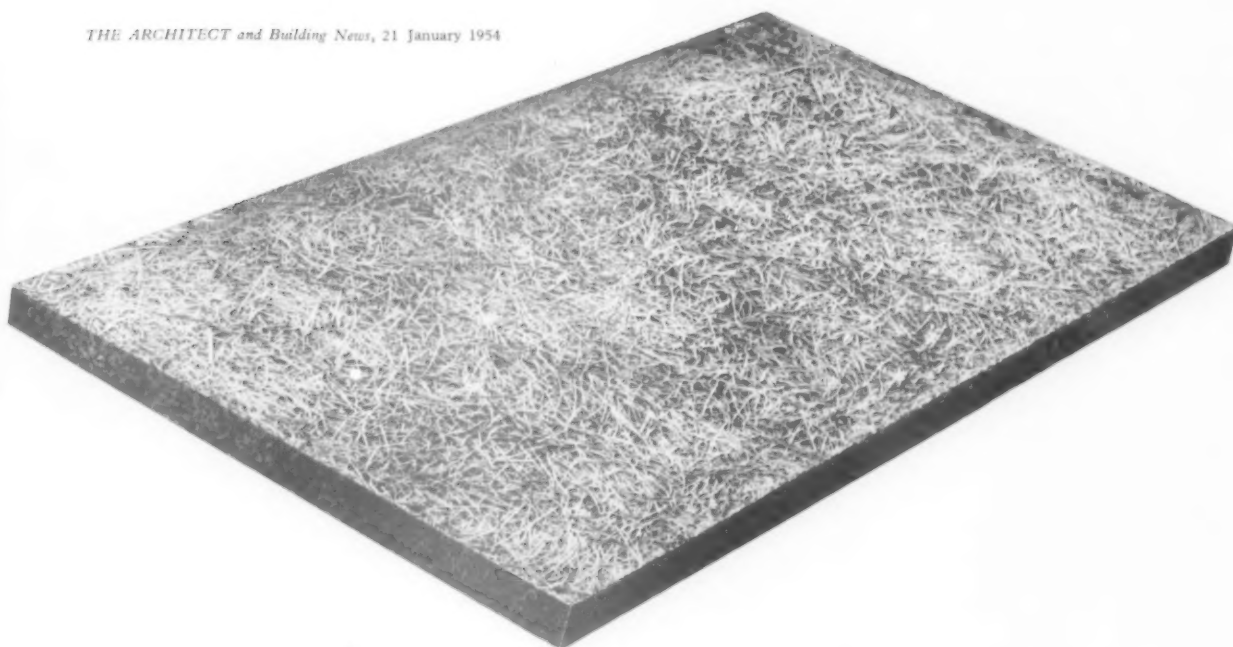
K. & L. STEELFOUNDERS LTD.

JONES KL 44

Distributors: George Cohen, Sons & Co. Ltd.

A range of fully mobile cranes on a wheeled chassis with interchangeable jibs, from 25ft to 50ft in length. Type illustrated lifts 2cwt 40ft with a reach of 43ft. Maximum lift is 50ft with 1½ tons. Weight of crane approximately 10 tons. Power from a 24½ b.h.p. diesel engine. Overwind and overload safety devices, restrictor-type wheels prevent the crane from tipping should a blow-out occur when under load. Cost approximately £3,441, a caterpillar-tracked chassis costs £300 extra.





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## CRANES : 1953

out—lintels and doorhoods were cast on the ground, chimney-stacks above plate level were built in four sections, certain large carpentry operations were made up in the shop, all were lifted into position by the crane.

TABLE IV.

Manhours per house in Production Run

OPERATION	Per House	
	Pro-grammed Manhours	Actual Manhours
(1) Erect crane and lay track ...	21	21
(2) Excavate, back fill and place hard-core ...	40	41
(3) All brickwork to roofed-in stage...	432	384
(4) Scaffolding ...	57	53
(5) First floor joists and roof carcassing	67	34
(6) Roof covering (felt, battens and tiles) ...	39	32
(7) Materials handling and concreting	140	133
(8) Crane driver on above operations	26	25
Total for foundations and shells to roofed-in stage ...	822	723
(9) Bricklayers internal finishing ...	188	184
(10) Carpenters ditto ...	170	130
(11) Plastering ...	160	225
(12) Plumbing (internal and external)	121	87
(13) Painting and glazing ...	160	186
(14) Electrical installation ...	48	43
(15) Gas Installation ...	6	5
(16) Floor layer (Sentex tiling) ...	6	5
Total for internal finishings ...	859	865
(17) Drainage ...	140	127
(18) Fencing ...	26	23
(19) Boundary and wing walls ...	33	29
(20) Garden Paths ...	41	35
(21) Unloading (Actual, completed before site works programme finalized) ...	15	15
Total for external site works ...	255	229
	1,936	1,817
Building time ...	132 days (8 hrs.)	132 days (8 hrs.)

Table IV compares the time taken with the programme. It should be borne in mind that the results were achieved on work carried out during the winter months, and it is pointed out that the apparent saving in hours was not entirely due to the crane, some were achieved by close organization and direction of the team.

The main achievement was that 32 houses were completed where only 20 would have been with the same labour force without the crane.

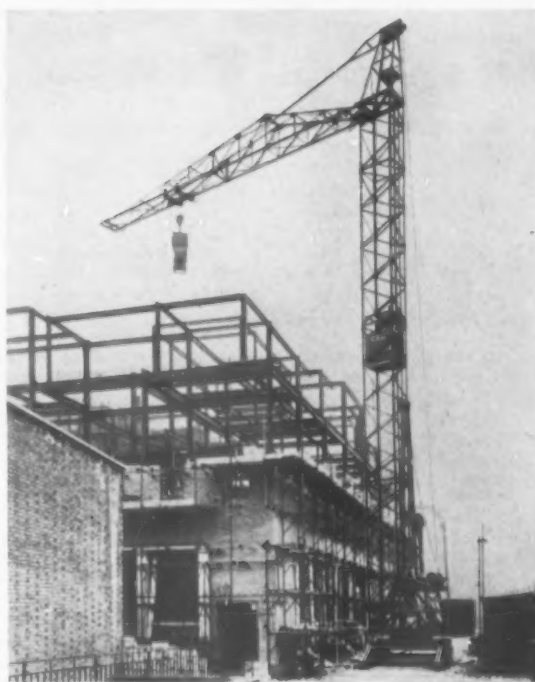
"The cost of the crane, including all charges is 16s per hour. On an average site, therefore, a saving of

MESSRS. HILGERS A.G., VOGELE A.G.

BUILDMASTER  
BDK75

Sole Agents: Abelson &amp; Co. (Engineers) Ltd.

A self-erecting tower crane, rail mounted, made in three sizes, the smallest model is illustrated here. This crane will lift 12-cwt to a height of 63ft with a reach of 46ft. Maximum load is 1½ tons to 25ft 7in with a reach of 19ft 8in. Working weight is 13 tons. The crane is powered by either one diesel motor of 16 h.p. or three separate electric motors of 2, 4 and 6.5 h.p. Time spent in erection is 6 hours. Cost, f.o.l. London Dock, £3,015 with a fixed jib, £310 extra for a luffing jib. Of particular interest is the ability of this crane to take comparatively tight bends in the rail track, 13ft radius to the inside rail being minimum.



R. H. NEAL &amp; CO. LTD.

TRAVELLING TOWER CRANE

A recently modified self-erecting travelling crane, electrically operated by four individual electric motors. It will lift 12 cwt 66ft with a reach of 53ft. The boom has three raised positions. Maximum height is 115ft lifting 2 tons with a reach of 16ft. A temporary short jib is mounted on the undercarriage to assist in the erection, which takes 6-7 hours.

Cost £3,850 plus £250 for ballast, if required.



## CRANES : 1953

about £100 per house could be expected, made up as follows:—

Saving in manhours, 1,000 @ 3s 2½d ..	£160
Saving in overhead charges .. ..	£25
	£185
Cost of bonus .. ..	£63
Cost of crane 25 hrs @ 16s .. ..	£20
	£83
Estimated saving .. ..	£102

"In considering the results it is impossible at this stage to separate those savings directly attributable to the use of the crane and those attributable to careful planning and organization, though the latter certainly played a very considerable part. Further experiments are in progress designed to isolate these separate influences.

And finally:—

"The mobile tower crane is not of course, applicable to all sites. Its use on sloping sites and with irregular layouts will be limited, but the extent of these limitations is as yet undefined. Work is in hand to determine the comparative economics of the use of turn-tables, points, and other appliances to negotiate irregular layouts, and of methods and equipment to overcome the difficulties of sloping sites. Available information suggests, however, that even in its present form the crane and track should be applicable to about one-third of the housing sites in the country."

One consideration when dealing with rail-mounted tower cranes is the time spent on erection. The larger cranes may take up to a month to assemble, the smaller ones are usually self-erecting and take anything from a few hours to one day to erect. Levelling and laying the rail track usually takes considerably longer. Other points of design are the position of the driver's cab—the method of control, and the nature of the power supply—electric motor or diesel engine—the necessity of a portable generator (one tower crane carries its own generator). Maximum load at maximum reach is an important factor.

Drawbacks of the railed tower crane are principally connected with site and layout. As demonstrated at Norwich, a tower crane may be used as a maid of all work, provided site organization and pre-planning is of sufficiently high standard. In larger contracts the rôle of the crane is restricted. The machine is kept fully occupied lifting and placing materials and components on the building, labour on the ground is much the same.

On a housing contract, however, the layout of the estate, if of an irregular shape, may adversely affect the performance of the crane—some cranes make a point of the minimum radius of turn, others use turntables. The greatest drawback of all, however, is the sloping site. The tracks must be laid reasonably level, if the tower becomes out of vertical the permissible load is drastically reduced and the machine rapidly becomes dangerous.

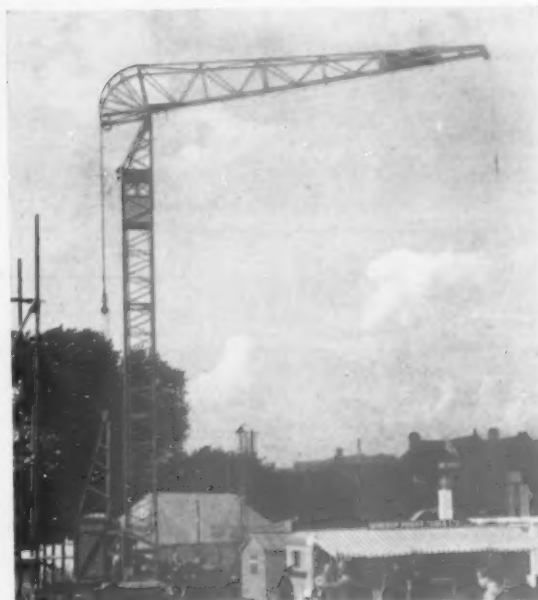
Cranes used for building may fall into three main headings:—

1. Fully mobile jib cranes with limited reach and lift, used principally on the engineering side of the trade, i.e., lifting of trusses, preformed steel and concrete members, posts and panels. These cranes may run on rubber-tired wheels or caterpillar tracks, can negotiate steep inclines and, if tracked, bad site conditions.

2. Tower cranes running on rails of varying sizes, usually powered by electricity. This type may be classified by size—those capable of covering the normal two- and three-storey block and those that are used for any thing up to eleven storeys.

3. Immobile tower cranes, hoists, derricks and similar cranes erected on the top of tall buildings.

There are, however, established designs which cover any two of these main headings, the final choice of any particular model can only be made after a thorough examination



WICKHAM ENGINEERING CO. LTD.

PROTOTYPE

A rail-mounted, self-erecting tower crane that is just going into production. Probable performance will be: a load of 1 ton lifted 60 feet with a reach of 50ft. Maximum height is 110ft lifting 2 tons with a reach of 23ft. Total weight with ballast is 18 tons. Power is from individual electric motors. Cost will be approximately £4,000.



STEELS ENGINEERING PRODUCTS LTD.

COLES CRANE  
MODEL LT2310

A fully mobile tower crane that is convertible to a jib crane in under an hour and may be had either wheeled or tracked. It will lift 2 tons to a height of 71ft 6in with a 42ft reach. Maximum load is 5 tons to a height of 82ft 6in with a 24ft reach. The machine can lower its own tower when travelling long distances. Overwind and overload safety devices are incorporated. Cost is approximately £16,000.

of the various types available compared with the job the crane is to be used for. A crane is an expensive piece of equipment and cannot be allowed to lie idle if it is to perform its prime function: that of building more quickly with less cost.



## A Housing Experiment in 1953

### THE STOCKTON TEST

"The Stockton Test" was stimulated by the existence in this country of several million houses whose future is inadequately dealt with by existing plans. These are the houses built for the expanding artisan population during the latter half of the last century. On the one hand, the majority of such houses were well and solidly built and remain structurally sound; far too sound to be scrapped in any housing situation that can be envisaged within the next 20 to 30 years. It is, in fact, estimated that this country contains eight million houses built prior to 1914, replacement of which, at present building rates, cannot begin before 1972.

Though sound in structure, in other respects they fall far below modern standards, particularly in their rudimentary sanitary arrangements and lack of bathrooms or even of a satisfactory means of heating water.

Four such houses were acquired by Allied Ironfounders for conversion under the Test. Each is a typical passage house with sitting-room, kitchen, off-shot scullery and two bedrooms. Sanitation is provided by an external w.c. in the yard—there is no bathroom or hot water supply.

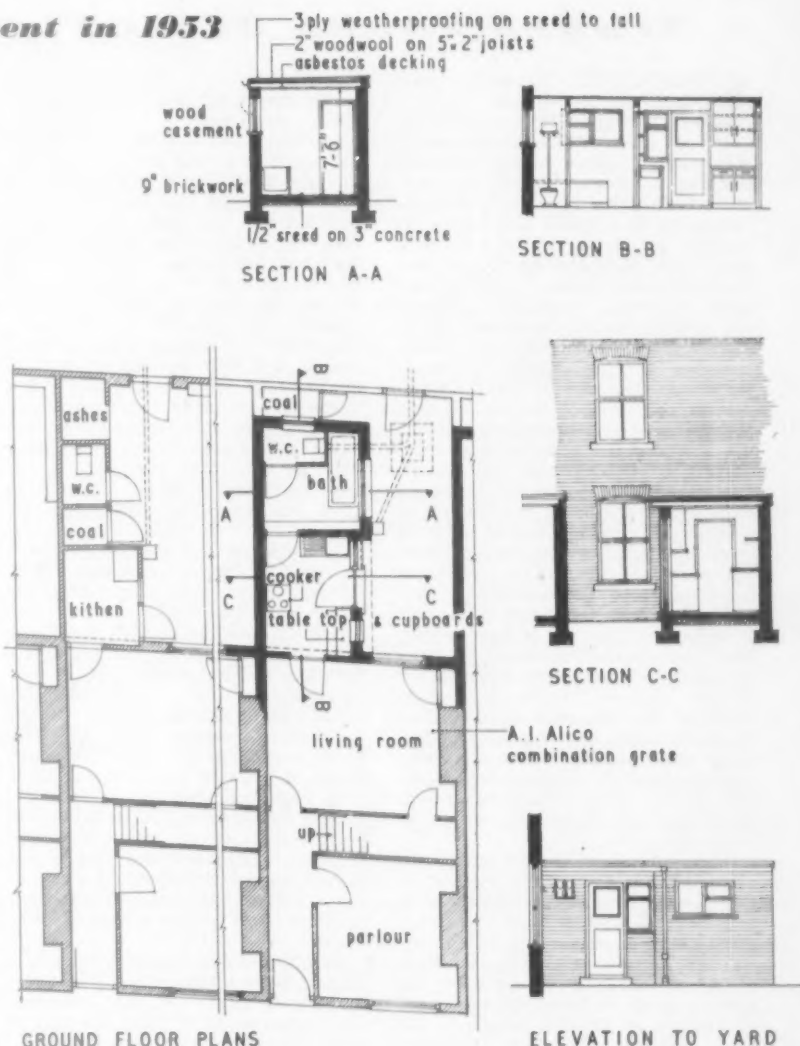
Plans were drawn up for a conversion which would include the demolition of the small, cramped scullery, and of the existing coal-store and outside lavatory. In their place, a new brick structure would be built into the back yard, housing an enlarged scullery of more modern and practical design, a bathroom and w.c. Heating would be catered for by the installation in the kitchen (in place of the old-fashioned range) of a modern "Alico" combination grate with back boiler, serving the triple purpose of heating the room, cooking and providing a constant supply of hot water.

On completion of the work a careful analysis was made of the costs involved, and of the financial commitments to the property-owner, the Local Authority and the tenant.

The total cost of the work comprised in the test was found to be £350 per house. Of this sum, application having been made for an improvement grant under the terms of the 1949 Housing Act, half was borne by Allied Ironfounders and half found by the Local Authority. This cost compares with a current cost of about £1,550 each for the Council Houses at present being built on the Borough Housing Estates.

The 1949 Housing Act permits the landlord to increase the annual rental by 6 per cent of the sum spent on such improvements—in this case, equivalent to an extra 4s a week for each house.

With this increase, the rents are in the region of only 13s 6d a week, as compared with 22s 2d a week for a Council house of equal accommodation. From the tenant's point of view, this



The drawings above include typical plans before and after the conversion, new work is shown solid black. The first house was finished on April 10, 23 days after work was started. Scale, one inch represents twelve feet. The table below breaks down the costs of the four conversions.

#### FINAL ACCOUNT

Trade	Labour £ s d	Materials £ s d	Total £ s d
Main Contractor and Plasterer ...	325 15 9½	533 8 11½	859 4 9
Electrician ...	14 6 8	10 3 6	24 10 2
Roofers (decking and finish) ...	—	—	120 0 0
Plumber and Glazier ...	114 11 8	281 2 5	395 14 1
Cost per house ...	£349 17 3		£1,399 9 0

increase is at least in part offset by the saving in fuel costs offered by a modern solid-fuel appliance.

Whatever the advantages to the nation and to the tenant, from the owner's point of view it is a doubtful investment in present circumstances. Whilst the increase of rental is limited to 6 per cent, out of which the owner has to meet repairs and renovations, pay his Schedule A tax, and recoup his

capital, the margin is a very slender one. This is, no doubt, why owners of such property have in general been slow to take advantage of the facilities offered them. In the entire country less than 3,000 improvement grants have as yet been applied for. In Stockton, a town of some 20,000 houses, of which nearly 7,000 are without baths, the number of grants so far applied for is only 15.

## TIMBER TRADE REVIEW

**S**IGNIFICANT freedoms were granted to the timber trade in 1953, so allowing the trade to enter this year with almost all its materials available without licence to the customer. Licences have been entirely removed, but certain dollar hardwoods and plywoods can be supplied only where the contract has the support of a Government department and the species have been stipulated. For all practical purposes softwood, hardwood, plywood and building boards are all available to the builder and architect without limit.

By far the most important event in the timber trade of 1953 was the abolition of softwood consumer licensing. Stocks had been accumulating during the year and the licensing authorities became more lenient as the months passed, until the new limits on building work, coupled with the building repair scheme, made the freedom of softwood imperative. It is to the building trade that softwood importers are looking for much of their increased trade, with repair and private building being able to make immediate use of more timber, while later revised schemes for local authority houses may take advantage of the new freedom. The limitation of 1.6 standards per thousand sq ft of floor space has often been a handicap, and there will probably be considerable pressure from the timber trade to revive interest in the timber ground floor (previously banned except in the case of a sloping site).

While official restrictions upon softwood were eased towards the end of 1953, a movement in prices started even earlier which is likely to have a dampening effect upon any remarkable increase in softwood consumption. Estimates of increased consumption by trade and Government officials place the figure at 110,000 standards for 1954, and the Softwood Decontrol Committee, giving an estimate of an extra 120,000 standards, said this was an ample figure to cover possible increased softwood use.

By summertime prices were falling on the world softwood market, but within a few months the prospect of freedom from licensing had sent the importers hurrying into the market to buy heavily for 1954 deliveries, in spite of the ever-growing stocks in this country. This has had the inevitable effect of sending up prices, which are now some £15 a standard above the 1953 summer level.

In November purchases were 270,000 standards, and, though buying has now eased considerably, the damage has already been done, indicating higher prices for softwood in 1954. From the stocks available in the country it would have seemed the importers could well have delayed heavy buying, and in this way have forced the shippers to reduce prices to attract business. At the start of this year there are some 600,000 standards of softwood for sale from the yards, and, in addition, some 200,000 standards held on behalf of the

Government in a strategic reserve which might be placed on the free market at any time.

Looking ahead in 1954, it can be said there need be no fear whatsoever of any shortage of softwood developing, for stocks are already high, and buying for later delivery has made such headway that, even with freedom from licensing, there will still be a good stock of wood left by the end of the year. In carcassing specifications there is abundance, and prices might become easier, but those who require good redwood joinery will find the market moving against them, for it is undeniable that stocks of this wood are limited and prices are firm. No alteration in this picture can be seen for any time during 1954, as firms have been buying this class of timber for autumn delivery, so great has been the call upon the shippers.

There is now keen buying of Russian softwood for this year, and some 70,000 standards have been bought at prices based on £85 a standard c.i.f. for unsorted 7in redwood. This is a lower price than comparable Swedish specifications, and this wood should prove an attraction to the building industry in the coming months.

Canadian timbers are generally highly competitive with European prices, in spite of the heavier freights to be paid, and stocks are good in the hands of the trade. This year it is expected that much more Canadian Douglas fir, hemlock and spruce will be sold in the British market, and in these timbers there may be some encouragement of the builder by way of lower prices.

Events in the softwood trade had a distinct bearing on hardwood business throughout 1953, and this influence will continue to be felt throughout 1954. Import restrictions upon hardwoods from countries outside the Colonies hampered the industry for much of the year, and it was not until the last few weeks of the year that all countries, except the dollar areas, were opened to the hardwood importers. Threat of softwood freedom led to a gradual running-down of stocks in those species which had gained an entry into the post-war timber market on the score of their ability to be used as softwood substitutes without licence.

Throughout the year hardwood prices fell for most species, so that by to-day they are about as low as can be expected. There are exceptions, of course, such as Japanese oak. The opening of the Japanese market led to some heavy buying of Japanese oak, through large demand from consumers, at a time when shippers were not able to meet requests from the importers, so prices for this wood have risen alarmingly.

Stocks of hardwoods in the country are good, and there should be little difficulty at any time in meeting demand for most varieties. Some of those species used for their value as softwood

substitutes will probably drop out of the commercial market completely during 1954, but no slump in hardwood values should be anticipated. Softwood freedom did not produce the forecasted slump because traders had been selling at low prices and reducing stocks for some time beforehand, and in recent months there has been little hardwood buying for 1954 delivery. While this does not mean there is likely to be any shortage in hardwoods, it does indicate that prices for many hardwoods may rise a little in coming months.

In the plywood market 1953 activities were overshadowed by the Government policy of fixed prices and allocation of plywood import licences according to purchases from the Government plywood stock. However, this scheme is to end in March, when import licences will be issued without reference to buying from the national plywood stock. While throughout 1953 there was plenty of plywood available to the buyer without licence, and there are still ample stocks, much of this plywood is of a variety not normally used by most customers, so there have been shortages of grades and specifications in popular demand. This situation will gradually be eased as 1954 progresses and more private imports are permitted.

The elimination of the Government plywood stock will probably be one of the conditions of any importing freedom, and there is every hope that this will be achieved only through drastic price reductions to effect clearance. Developments with this stock deserve careful watching by the building industry.

Building boards have become far more widely used in the building industry, and it is a matter for regret that import quotas still remain upon imports. In the trade it is hoped this restriction will be removed in time for imports during the second half of the year.

Stocks are not sufficient to meet demand. Home factories are producing to capacity, but delivery delays are invariably quoted, running to several months in the case of hardboard. Stocks of imported hardboard are becoming more difficult to acquire, and this difficulty will become more pronounced by the spring.

Prices are generally firm, and are likely to stay steady for some months.

### T.D.A. LECTURES IN JANUARY

The following lectures sponsored by the Timber Development Association, Ltd., will be held during the end of January:—25, at 6.45 p.m.: "Wood Fibre Boards and the Constructor," by J. Gwyn Davies, at Leeds College of Commerce. 26, at 7.30 p.m.: "New Timbers and Their Uses," by H. Richardson, to Southampton and District Association of Builders' Foremen and Clerks of Works, at 117, Highfield Lane, Southampton. 27, at 7 p.m.: "The New Wood Science," by Prof. A. R. Gemmell, at Blackburn Municipal College. 28, at 2.30 p.m.: "Timber Utilization," by H. Richardson, at the Institute of Park Administration, Reading.



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pretty busy lately...*

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This book isn't in any way a piece of pretentious print. It is pure fact from beginning to end, without frills or trimmings—test data on the incombustibility and insulation values of "Asbestolux"—facts about its resistance to acids, steam, humidity, rot, fungi, insects—and proof that "Asbestolux" won't swell or twist and is easy to work.

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*and the name of the board is, of course,*

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*Recently completed School in Trieste showing use of "POLY-FLOR" FLOORING in continuous lengths and applied to staircase.*



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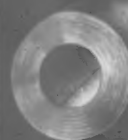
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and **ROLLS**



## IS YOUR OFFICE AN ADVERTISEMENT?

"IT Pays to Advertise." I seem to remember that this was the title of a play running in London when I was young. I am afraid I can remember little of the play itself but for some unknown reason the title has remained with me ever since.

To-day advertising has become so much a part of business life that even the Income Tax Authorities allow a certain percentage for this purpose.

You may say that advertising is quite acceptable for the expansion of a business, but is not permissible in a profession such as architecture. If you take the meaning of "to advertise" as stated in the dictionary, which is "to notify publicly" you may be correct. I am fully aware that an architect must not advertise his services as though they were a soap powder, in the public press, but in the business world the meaning of "to advertise" has long outstripped the dictionary definition.

Have we, as architects, kept abreast of the times in this respect, or have we just hidden behind the fact that the architect should be aloof from advertising of any kind? I feel that the time has come, in fact might have passed, when we should reconsider this attitude of mind. Many of the younger generation have already discarded this attitude and have not regretted the fact.

There are various ways of legitimately advertising without overstepping the code of professional practice, any one of which could form the subject of an article. I wish, however, to deal with the question of your office as an advertisement.

It could be argued that if a person has decided to engage an architect he will go to his office irrespective of what it is like. This, to my mind, is far from the truth.

As a junior it fell to my lot to deliver deed plans to a solicitor. The office was in a back street, ironically called Sun Lane, although the sun never entered that back alley. The outer office was dark and musty; the solicitor's own office was littered with black boxes, and rolls of paper and deeds, and a general air of disorder prevailed. I always left that office with the firm conviction that if ever I needed to invoke the aid of a solicitor, this would be the last person I would entrust with my business.

Have you ever considered what impression your office leaves on clients or other people who visit your office and who may be the means of recommending you as an architect? Or, alternatively, have you become so accustomed to it in its present state

that its appearance is taken for granted?

A dingy entrance and an untidy office are no advertisements to an architect, particularly when every client is expecting you to execute for them a modern building. By modern I don't necessarily mean the latest in futuristic designs, but every client for whom I have had the pleasure of executing a commission has considered that his or her requirements are modern, whether it be a small bungalow, mansion or factory.

I can well remember having reason, a number of years before the war, to call upon a young architect in Preston who had just commenced in practice, and how I left his office impressed with the whole layout and decoration. I felt that if ever I was called upon to recommend an architect in the Preston area I would have no hesitation in putting forward his name.

More recently I had the good fortune to call upon an architect who had purchased some old premises for renovation for his own use. I was so impressed by the transformation which he had carried out that I asked for his views on the whole question of "It Pays to Advertise," particularly as far as his own office was concerned. He informed me that the design of his office was one of the few commissions which he could plan and for which he could choose materials and colour schemes, untrammelled by the likes and whims of his clients. He thoroughly enjoyed the new experience and, being his own work, he could, with confidence, show it to his clients as such.

Although he has only been in this office for six months, he has already found that callers to his office inform his staff how lucky they are to work in such congenial surroundings. In addition, he has on occasions found members of his staff showing the office to visiting architectural assistants and they appear to be obtaining the same satisfaction as he obtained in showing me around his establishment.

The staff are happy at their work and are proud of their place of employment. This naturally, in the long run, should benefit the architect.

He has received a personal satisfaction (which, he informed me, far outweighs the cost of the alterations) from hearing favourable unsolicited comments which practically all his clients make. He was very amused when the wife of one of his clients delivered a letter personally, and openly confessed that it was merely an excuse to see his office, which her husband had spoken

so highly of to her. Obviously the change which has taken place in the working conditions of this particular architect are bound to have a beneficial effect not only on his business but his staff.

I have been in a number of offices which have left me with the same impression but unfortunately there is, I venture to suggest, a far greater number that leave one with the same feeling as the solicitor's office in Sun Lane that I mentioned.

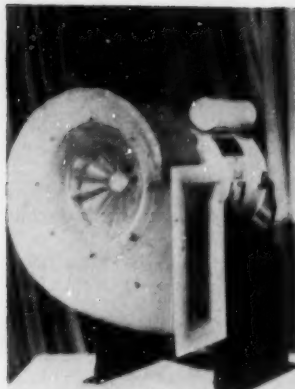
When in London over a week-end I invariably take a stroll round the Georgian squares. Some are a pleasure to inspect, not only because of their architecture but because the doorways have a well maintained appearance. The overall dignity of some squares left me with an elevated feeling. I have noticed that when doorways and windows are well kept so are the name plates. There are, however, doorways which have the reverse effect. A coat of paint and a new name plate can do wonders.

A number of years ago I worked in an office whose entrance left much to be desired. I called at the same office recently and was amazed at the change which had been wrought at little expense. The entrance floor had been laid with light-coloured rubber tiles, the walls were tastefully papered and a pair of contrasting curtains had been hung on the staircase window. The goings of the stairs had been retreated and the risers painted in a matching shade of blue, with one white spot 18 inches from the outer wall. Perspectives in modern light-oak frames decorated the wall. The entrance was now a delight to see and gave a totally different impression of the office.

What happens to your client when he calls on you and finds you are engaged? Does he stand in the passage or wait in the general office; or have you a room set aside where he may entertain himself until you are free? I maintain that a waiting room, however small, is an essential part of an architect's office. Here, again, your powers of design and decoration can be put to good advantage.

I have heard it argued that a professional office which is well decorated may give the impression that it is too prosperous and that this has only been achieved by charging high fees. To my mind there is no substance in this reasoning. I would rather entrust my architectural business to a firm which was prosperous and showed its powers of design through the medium of its own office, than to a firm whose general office appearance presents a "could-not-care-less" attitude.

M. E. TAYLOR.



## MOSAICS

### SERVICES VENTILATION B2/15

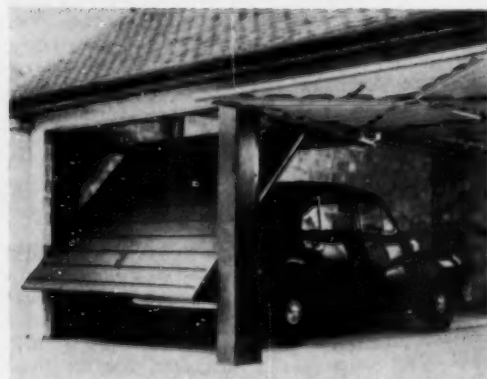
The "Turbro" Junior Exhaust Fan, made by Turner & Brown Ltd., of Bolton, has an extract capacity of 300-330 cu ft/min and is powered by a  $\frac{1}{2}$  h.p. electric motor. This fan is one of a special range designed for use in laboratories, chemical plant and so on. The casing, impeller and impeller shaft are all fabricated from Vybak P.V.C. Rigid Sheet V.R.215, supplied by Bakelite Ltd. No metallic parts are in contact with the extracted air, fumes, etc. Cost, ex-works, £41 complete with motor.



### FITTINGS REFRIGERATOR C1/14

The Easiclone two-cubic-foot-capacity refrigerator, manufactured by Easiclone Porcelain-Enamel (1938) Ltd., Darlaston, South Staffs, is available for operation by electricity, mains or bottled gas, or kerosene. The unit, which has a table-top nearly four square feet in area, is produced in two colour schemes: white with grey table and white interior, or cream with green top and interior.

Retail price is £67 10s (£57 13s for the kerosene model).



### STRUCTURE DOORS A11/9

The "Weirise" Overhead Garage Door, by Westland Engineers Ltd., Yeovil, is constructed of aluminium sheet fluted horizontally for stiffness and braced internally. Vertical and horizontal tracks are steel. Doors are purpose made for individual requirements up to 12ft by 10ft. Typical price for a door 7ft high by 8ft wide is, ex-works, £24 15s.



### SERVICES LIGHT FITTINGS B1/75

A special lighting unit, designed to fit into a false ceiling on a 5ft by 2ft 10in grid, made by Smart and Brown (Engineers) Ltd., 105, Judd Street, W.C.1. The unit consists of three main parts, the frame, which fits into the rectangular grid of the false ceiling, the louvre, which is attached to the underside of the frame, and the fitting itself which consists of a deep, inverted, pan-shaped reflector in which are mounted four 40 W fluorescent lamps and two 75 W tungsten strip lights.

## INDUSTRIAL NOTES

●The British Productivity Council announce that a non-profit-earning company to provide increased fuel efficiency advisory services for industry is now in course of formation.

The proposed name of this company is The National Industrial Fuel Efficiency Service and it is being formed by the Council at the invitation of the Minister of Fuel and Power following his acceptance of the proposals of the Committee under Sir Harry Pilkington set up by the Minister to work out a scheme for implementing a Recommendation of the Committee on National Policy for the use of Fuel and Power Resources (Ridley Committee).

The primary object of the Company is to provide general advice to industry and non-industrial establishments other than domestic users, and to give practical help to secure the most efficient and economical use of all forms of fuel, heat and power. By arrangement with the Ministry of Fuel and Power it will take over progressively and extend the work now being done by the Ministry in that field. It will provide direct services or work through independent consultants and fuel technologists whichever may be the most practicable course. It will also work in close concert with other bodies, public and private, who are interested or engaged in fuel efficiency work.

The Company will receive no direct Government subsidy but will be financed by contributions from the National Coal Board, the British Electricity Authority and the Gas Council supplemented perhaps by voluntary contributions from industry, and, where appropriate, by fees for its direct services.

The British Productivity Council has nominated the following to be the Board of Directors which will control the policy of the Company:—

Sir Leslie Hollinghurst, G.B.E., K.C.B., D.F.C. (Chairman). Sir Patrick J. Dollan, LL.D., D.L., J.P., Chairman, Scottish Fuel Efficiency Advisory Committee. Sir John Hacking, Deputy Chairman (Operations), British Electricity Authority. Sir Edward Herbert, O.B.E., M.A. (Cantab.), Deputy Chairman and Managing Director, William Hobbins and Co., Ltd., Nottingham. Mr. Leslie A. W. Jenkins, Joint Managing Director, John Wright and Sons (Veneers), Ltd., London. Mr. Henry F. H. Jones, Deputy Chairman, the Gas Council. Mr. E. Julian Pote, J.P., Managing Director, the Steel Company of Wales, Ltd. Mr. Jack Tanner, Chairman of the T.U.C. General Council and a member of the British Productivity Council.

The temporary address of the new Company will be: Thames House South, 6th Floor, Millbank, London, S.W.1. Tel.: Abbey 7000.

\* Sir Leslie Hollinghurst was for six years a member of the Air Council and recently retired with the rank of Air Chief Marshal.

●The new London office of the Colt Associated Companies in British Columbia House, Regent Street, was formally opened by Mr. W. A. McAdam, C.M.G., Agent-General for British Columbia, on December 10.

The offices have been designed by Messrs. Story & Co., Ltd., and good use has been made of contemporary furniture and colour schemes to create a pleasing and spacious effect.

The Head Office of the Colt companies will, of course, remain at Surbiton, Surrey.

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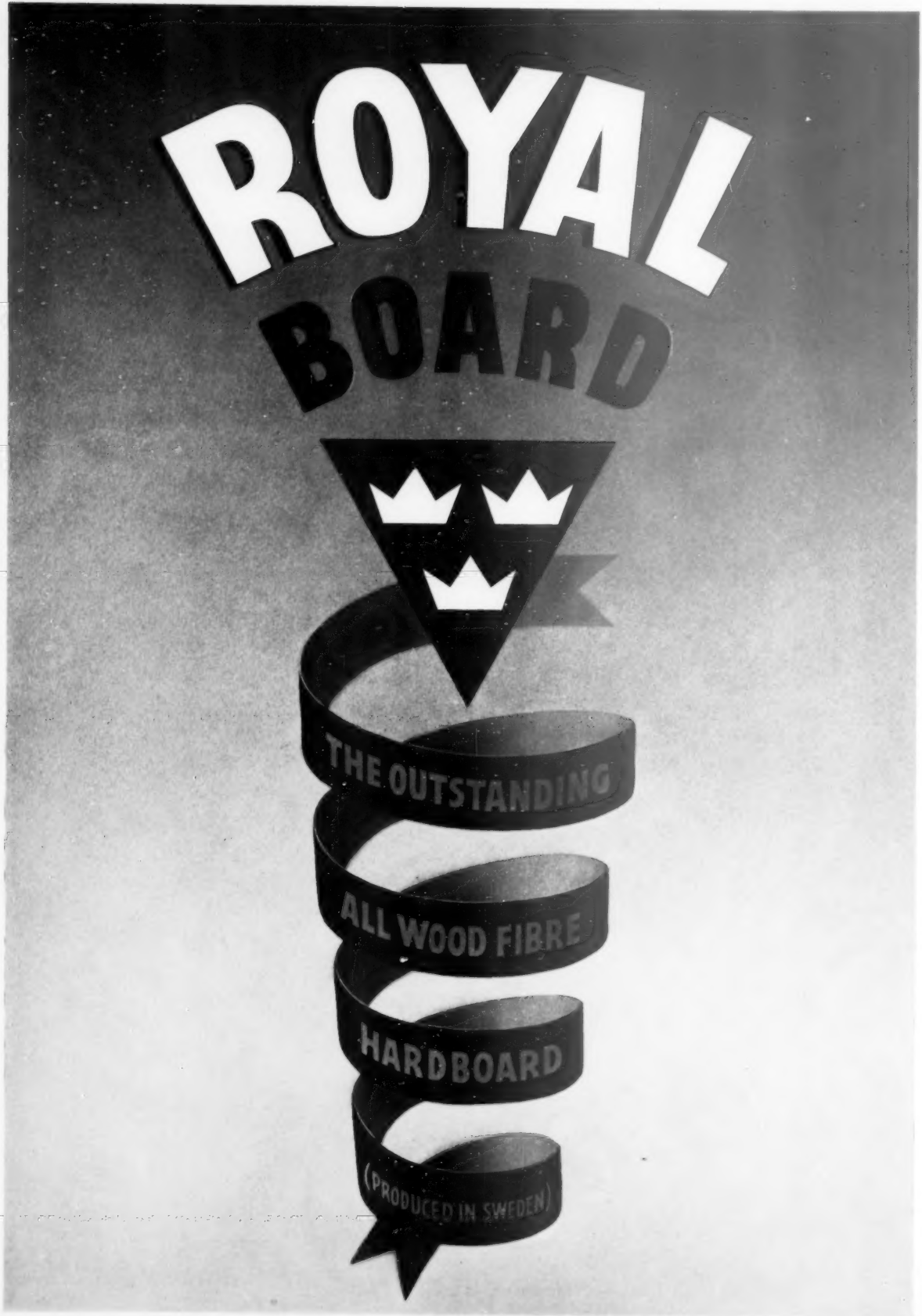
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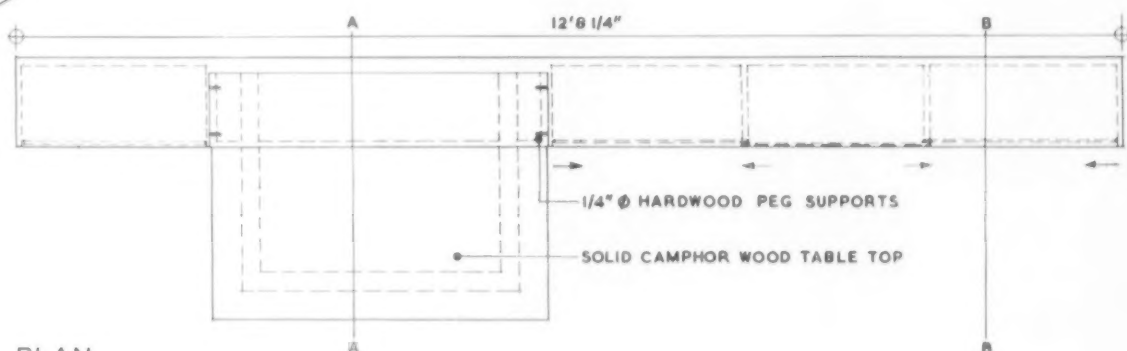
# BCSA



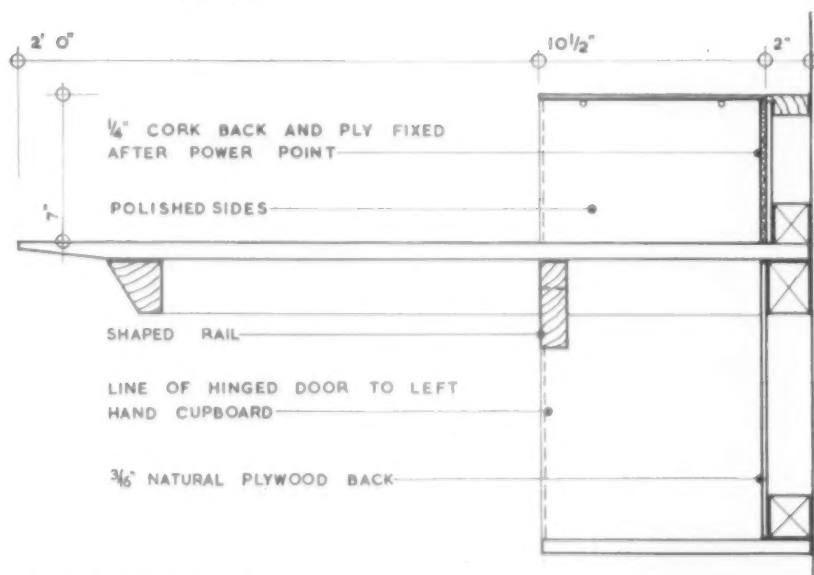


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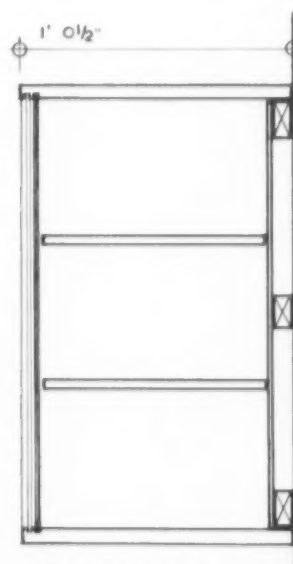
ISOMETRIC VIEW OF  
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PLAN



SECTION AA



SECTION BB

SCALES:  $\frac{1}{2}$ " TO 1' 0" &  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " TO 1' 0"



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ARCHITECTS: L. H. GOODAY AND C. NOBLE

Notes below give basic data of contracts open under locality and authority which are in bold type. References indicate: (a) type of work, (b) address for application. Where no town is stated in the

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## CONTRACT • NEWS •

### OPEN

#### BUILDING

**\*BRIGHTON B.C.** (a) 6 classroom and lavatory extension to Woodingdean Primary School. (b) Borough Engineer, 26-30, King's Road. (c) 3gns. (e) Feb. 15. See page 78.

**CARDIFF C.C.** (a) 4 shops with maisonnettes over and 20 garages and site works, Fishguard Road, North Crystals. (b) City Surveyor, City Hall. (c) 2gns. (e) Feb. 1.

**CUMBERLAND C.C.** (a) Conversion of Epworth House, Drovers Lane, Penrith, into flats for firemen. (b) County Architect, 15, Portland Square, Carlisle. (e) Feb. 1.

**EBBW VALE U.C.** (a) 2 pairs of shops and flats and 1 pair of houses, Wacnorest Site, Beaufort. (b) Architect to the Council, Council Offices. (c) 3gns. (e) Jan. 27.

**ESSEX C.C.** (a) Extension to 4th floor of County Hall, Chelmsford. Steel frame construction with brick cladding and timber roof. (Approx. value of contract £5,875.) (b) County Architect, County Hall, Chelmsford. (d) Jan. 23.

**ESSEX C.C.** (a) (1) Alterations, Coggeshall St. Peter's C. of E. Primary School; (2) erection of hatted classrooms, Coggeshall County Primary School. The work comprises: (1) the erection of partitions, fire escape and additional lavatory accommodation (approx. value of contract £3,950); (2) construction of foundations, drainage, etc., and erection only of sectional wooden buildings (approx. value of contract £6,150, including cost of components). (b) County Architect, County Hall, Chelmsford. (d) Jan. 23.

**ESSEX C.C.** (a) War damage reinstatement at (1) Harold Court County Primary School (approx. value of contract £2,000) and (2) Upminster Gaynes County Secondary School (approx. value of contract £10,500). (b) County Architect, County Hall, Chelmsford. (d) Jan. 27. In both contracts the work will be of traditional construction and will have to start by the end of March, 1954; the Architects for these works are Messrs. Gerald Shenstone and Partners, 34, Bloomsbury Way, London, W.C.1.

**ESSEX C.C.** (a) Hatted classrooms at Rush Green County Primary School, Dagenham; comprising construction of foundations, drainage, etc., and the erection only of a sectional wooden building. (Approx. value of contract £3,200, including cost of components.) (b) County Architect, County Hall, Chelmsford. (d) Jan. 23.

**LEEDS C.C.** (a) Public conveniences, Oakwood Junction, Roundhay. (b) City Architect, Priestley House, Quarry Hill, 9. (c) £2. (e) Feb. 15.

**\*MABLETHORPE AND SUTTON U.C.** (a) (1) Reinforced concrete colonnade and retaining walls (Contract No. 1); (2) Pleasure Gardens, including concrete paving, reinforced concrete paddling pool, attendant's shelter, kiosk and pavilion, gardens, etc. (Contract No. 2). (b) Clerk of the Council, Council Offices, Mablethorpe. (c) 2gns. each contract. (e) Feb. 6. See page 78.

address it is the same as the locality given in the heading, (c) deposit, (d) last date for application, (e) last date and time for submission of tenders. Full details of contracts marked ★ are given in the advertisement section.

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LIVERPOOL, 8 Tel.: Lark Lane 1921/4.  
Grams: Thornpool, Liverpool.

**MANCHESTER C.C.** (a) Secondary Technical School, West Wythenshawe. (b) City Architect, City Hall. (c) Ign. (e) Feb. 3.

**MIDDLESBROUGH B.C.** (a) 3-storey block of 7 shops with 7 maisonettes over; 2 2-storey blocks of 2 shops with flat above and attached house, Berwick Hills. (b) Borough Engineer, Town Hall. (c) 2gns. (e) Feb. 8.

**MONMOUTHSHIRE C.C.** (a) New junior school, North Croesyceiliog. (b) County Architect, Queen's Hill, Newport. (c) 5gns. (e) Feb. 10.

**N. IRELAND—COOKSTOWN.** (a) 3 shops, residence and covered sales yard in Market Yard, Cookstown, Co. Tyrone. (b) Messrs. Cosgrove and Rooney, 2, Molesworth Street, Cookstown. (c) 5gns. (e) Jan. 27.

**N. IRELAND—NEWCASTLE U.C.** (a) Lavatory accommodation in Central Promenade and Castle Park. (b) Council's Surveyor, Council Offices, Newcastle, Co. Down. (e) Jan. 27.

**N. IRELAND—SAINTFIELD (CO. DOWN).** (a) Church hall, cloakroom, lavatories, kitchen and sundry store accommodation, with all ancillary works, Fair Green, Saintfield. (b) Andrew G. Crawford, 1, Lombard Street, Belfast. (c) £5. (e) Feb. 8.

**NORTHUMBERLAND C.C.** (a) Conversion of "Eastburn," Hexham, into a boys' hostel. (b) County Architect, County Hall, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. 1. (d) Jan. 30.

**SCOTLAND—KILWINNING B.C.** (a) 40 houses, Redstone Site, Fergushill Road, Kilwinning; (all trades). (b) Messrs. Black and Shapley, 15, Barr Street, Androssan. (d) Jan. 23.

**SCOTLAND—LANARKSHIRE C.C.** (a) New Protestant Primary School at Spittal, Rutherglen; (all trades). (b) County Clerk, Lanarkshire House, 191, Ingram Street, Glasgow, C.1. (d) Jan. 23.

**TRURO R.C.** (a) 8 houses at St. Mawes; 8 at Portscatho; 4 at Carnon Downs; 4 at Perranwell. (b) Council's Architect, 13, Lemon Street. (c) 2gns for each contract. (e) Feb. 9.

**TRURO R.C.** (a) Construction of roads and drains, etc., at St. Mawes; Portscatho; Carnon Downs; Perranwell. (b) Council's Architect, 13, Lemon Street. (c) Ign each contract. (e) Feb. 9.

**WANTAGE R.C.** (a) Garages and stores depot, Challow Hill, East Challow. (b) Engineer and Surveyor, Council Offices, Belmont. (c) Ign. (e) Feb. 6.

**WEST HARTLEPOOL B.C.** (a) 8 shops and 10 maisonettes and 7 houses; Owton Manor Estate. (b) Borough Architect, Municipal Buildings. (e) Feb. 10.

### PLACED

Notes on contracts placed state locality and authority in bold type with (1) type of work, (2) site, (3) name of contractor and address, (4) amount of tender or estimate. † denotes that work may not start pending final acceptance, or obtaining of licence, or modification of tenders, etc.

**WILTSHIRE C.C.** (1) Police headquarters. (2) Salisbury. (3) J. T. Parsons and Son, Ltd., Station Road, Westbury, Wilts. (4) £111,025.

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**HARPENDEN U.D.C.** (1) 56 houses. (2) Batford (South) Estate. (3) Dorset Building Contractors, Ltd., 11, Compton Avenue, Brighton, 1. (4) £78,276.

**EAST HAM B.C.** (1) 90 flats. (2) Ingrave site, near Brentwood. (3) Token Construction Co., Ltd., 48, Albemarle Street, London, W.1. (4) £132,350.

**PRESTON B.C.** (1) 87 houses. (2) Brookfield site. (3) Pius A. Baines and Son, Ltd., Paley Road, Preston, Lancs. (4) £112,000.

**NORTHAMPTON.** (1) Houses and flats. (2) Eastfield Estate. (3) R. Marriott, Ltd., Higham Road, Rushden, Northants. (4) £120,293 total.

**NEWCASTLE REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD.** (1) Pathological institute and blood transfusion centre. (2) Newcastle General Hospital. (3) John Laing and Son, Ltd., London, N.W.7, and Carlisle. (4) £250,000.

**TENDRING R.D.C.** (1) 40 houses, 22 bungalows. (3) Joseph Moss and Son, Ltd., Cavalry Barracks, Colchester, Essex. (4) £72,380.

**WEYMOUTH B.C.** (1) 120 "Gregory" houses. (2) Littlemoor Estate. (3) S. A. Gregory (Builders and Contractors), Ltd., 27, Chapel Road, Worthing. (4) £161,024.

**BILLINGHAM U.D.C.** (1) 109 houses. (3) Cecil M. Yuill, Ltd., Villiers Street, West Hartlepool. (4) £150,143.

**HORSHAM, SUSSEX.** (1) 400 houses. (3) Davis Estates, Ltd., 346, Kilburn High Road, London, N.W.6. Ministry approval received.

**SWANSEA.** (1) Rebuilding R.C. church. (2) Morriston. (3) Bennett Brothers, Ltd., Carlton Terrace, Swansea. (1) Rebuilding Presbyterian church and schoolroom. (2) Port Tennant Road. (3) L. H. Samuel, Ltd., Landore Yard, Swansea.

**JARROW-ON-TYNE.** (1) Large bakery, for Jarrow and Hebburn Co-operative Society, Ltd. (3) Lean Lane. (3) C.W.S. Building Department, West Blandford Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. (4) £85,000.

**BRECONSHIRE AND RADNORSHIRE JOINT FIRE BRIGADE COMMITTEE.** (1) Fire station. (2) Llandrindod Wells. (3) J. R. Hopton and Son, Cambrian House, Llandrindod Wells, Rad. (4) £19,612.

**BRISTOL.** (1) Erection of a factory for Sawyer and Purves (Meters), Ltd., Myrtle Street, Bristol. (3) H. C. Wakefield and Sons, Ltd., Whitson Street, Bristol, 1.

**COVENTRY.** (1) Erection of hotel and offices on Block C. (2) Broadgate development. (3) Sir Robert McAlpine and Sons, Ltd., 80, Park Lane, London, W.1. Architects: Hattrell and Partners, 1, Queens Road, Coventry. (4) £494,000.

**DOVER CORPORATION.** (1) 24 houses, 8 flats. (2) Temple Ewell site. (3) G. Lewis and Sons (Dover), Ltd., 14, Widred Road, Dover.

**CLUTTON R.D.C.** (1) 20 houses. (2) Nublow site. (3) A. H. Evans, 1, Wood View, High Littleton, Som. (4) £31,791.



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**LONDON.** (1) Second instalment of warehouse and offices for J. Buchanan and Co., Ltd. (2) Poole Street, N.1. (3) Harrison and Spooner, Ltd., 16, Holborn Viaduct, London, E.C.1. (4) £32,000.

**NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYNE B.C.** (1) Shops and flats. (2) Windermere Road. (3) Joseph Jones (Newcastle), Ltd., Newcastle-under-Lyne, Staffs. (4) £24,986.

**PLYMOUTH CORPORATION.** (1) 41 houses. (2) Chaucer Way. (3) J. W. Spencer, Ltd., St. Lawrence Yard, Mutley, Plymouth. (4) £48,561.

**WEST BROMWICH B.C.** (1) 12 shops, 14 flats. (2) Yew Tree estate. (3) W. B. and F. T. Archer, Rookery Road, Birmingham. (4) £43,846.

**COAL INDUSTRY HOUSING ASSOCIATION.** (1) 354 "Easiform" houses. (2) Conisborough, near Doncaster. (3) John Laing and Son, Ltd., London, N.W.7, and Carlisle.

**NEWPORT (MON) B.C.** (1) 102 "Easiform" houses. (2) St. Julian's North. (3) John Laing and Son, Ltd., London, N.W.7, and Carlisle.

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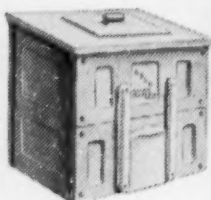
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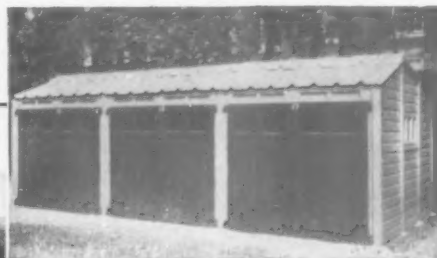
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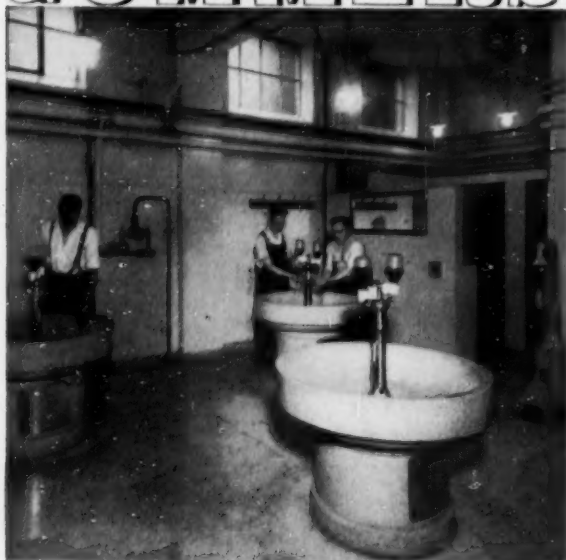
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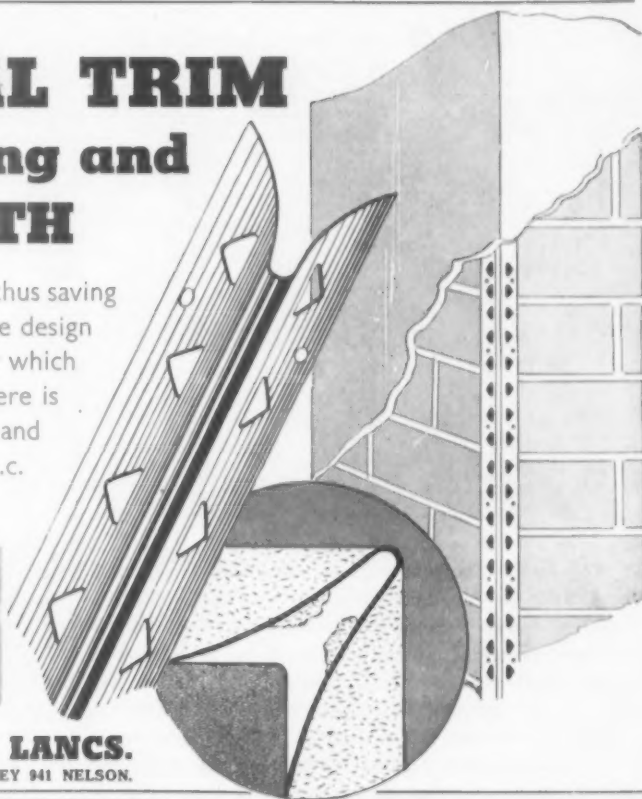
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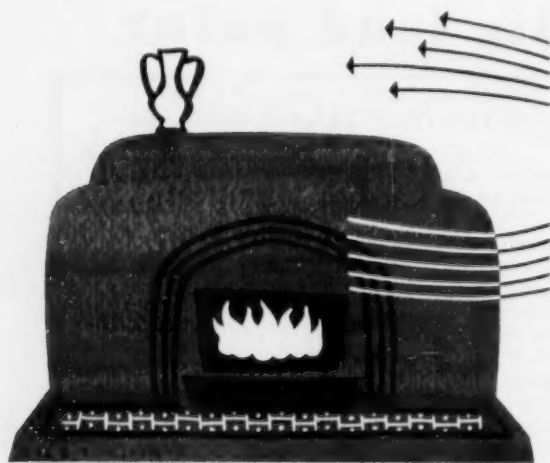
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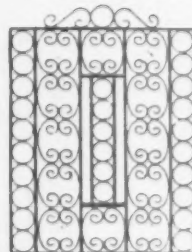
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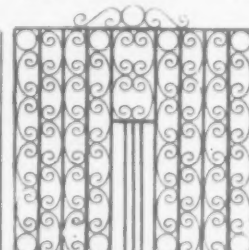
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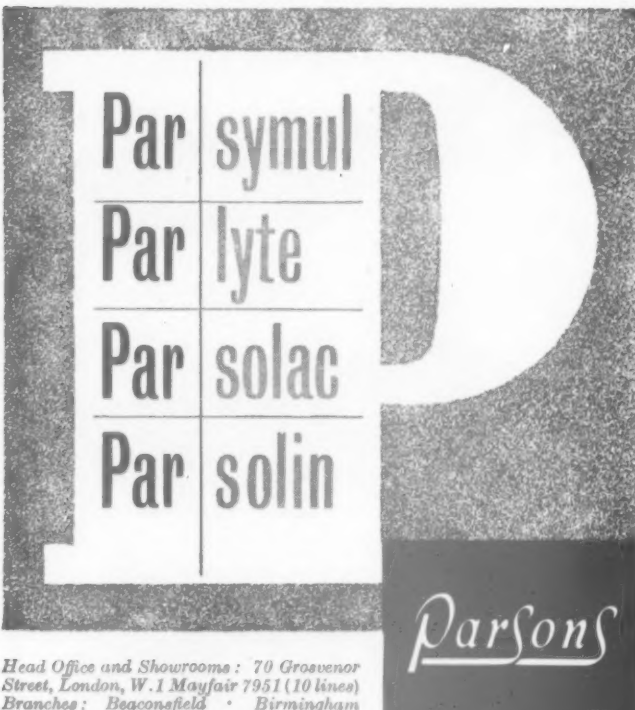
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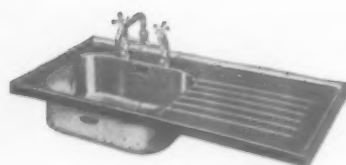
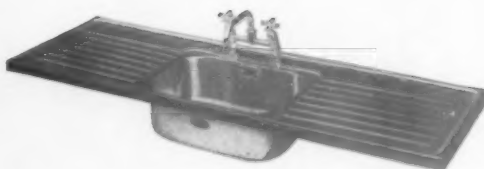
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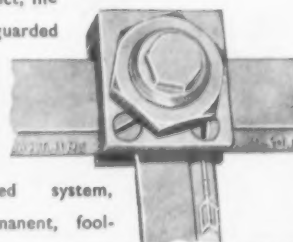
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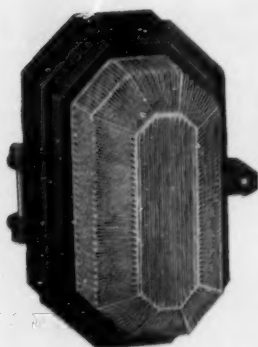
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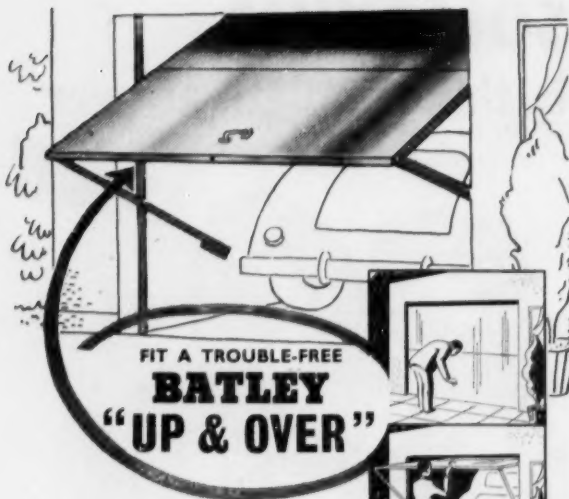
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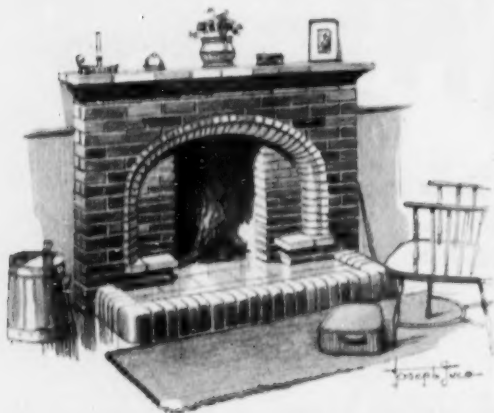
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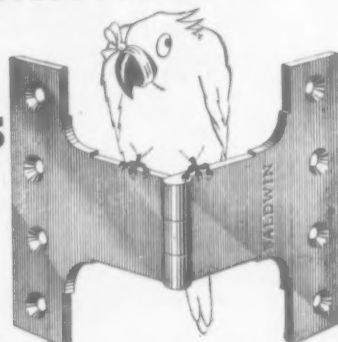
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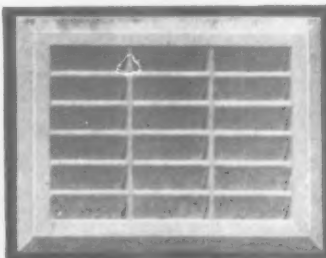
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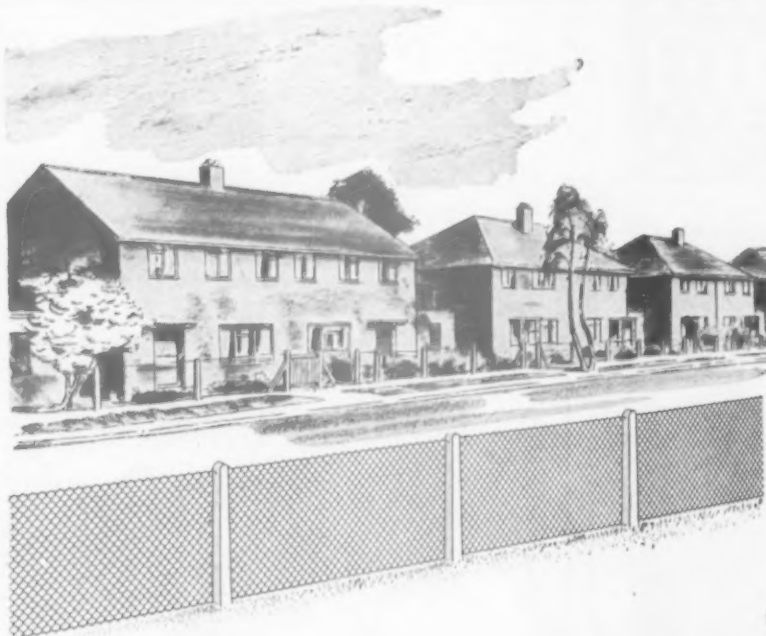
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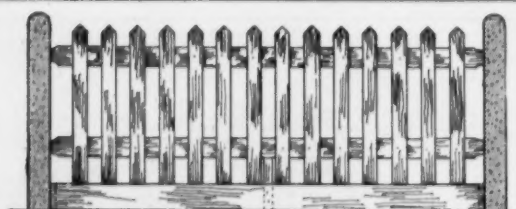
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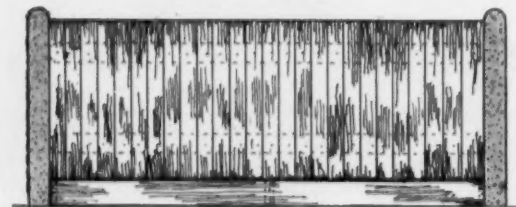
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# OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS

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## APPOINTMENTS

The engagement of persons answering these advertisements must be made through the local office of the Ministry of Labour and National Service, etc., if the applicant is a man aged 18-64 or a woman aged 18-59 inclusive, unless he or she or the employer is exempted from the provisions of The Notification of Vacancies Order 1952.

### BERKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

APPLICATIONS are invited for the following appointment in the County Architect's Department:—

**QUANTITY SURVEYING ASSISTANT.** Salary Grade III, £525-£570. Candidates should have had some experience in taking off in accordance with the Standard Method of Measurement and preference will be given to those who have passed the Intermediate Examination of the R.I.C.S.

Application forms and further particulars can be obtained from the County Architect, Wilton House, Parkside Road, Reading, to whom they should be returned completed by noon on Thursday, the 28th January, 1954.

E. R. DAVIES,  
Clerk of the Council.

Shire Hall,  
Reading.  
January, 1954.

[7596]

### LONDON ELECTRICITY BOARD. ENGINEERING DRAUGHTSMAN.

APPLICATIONS are invited for the above position in the South Western District.

Applicants should have had a good general and technical education in building construction and architecture, and experience in the design of small buildings in brickwork and reinforced concrete and the drawing up of specifications.

The post is graded under Schedule "D" of the National Joint Board agreement as Grade 6—£458 to £595 7s per annum, inclusive of London Allowance, and the commencing salary will be dependent upon qualifications and experience.

Application forms obtainable from Secretary, 46, New Broad St., E.C.2, to be returned completed by 30th January, 1954. Please enclose addressed envelope and quote ref. V/1701/AA on envelope and all correspondence.

[7597]

### BOROUGH OF GOSPORT.

#### ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT.

APPLICATIONS are invited for the appointment of ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT, Grade A.P.T. II-IV (£495-£600 per annum), to be graded according to experience, in the Borough Engineer's Department. Applicants should have passed the Intermediate Examination of the R.I.B.A. The appointment will be subject to one month's notice on either side; to the provisions of the Local Government Superannuation Acts, 1937-1953; and to the successful applicant passing a medical examination. Applications, endorsed "Architectural Assistant," giving full particulars, including age, qualifications, experience, and the names of two referees, should be forwarded to the undersigned, to arrive not later than first post on Wednesday, the 3rd February, 1954.

EDWARD ADDENBROOKE,

Town Clerk.

Town Hall,  
Gosport.

[7601]

**CRAWLEY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION** require an ARCHITECT (£850-£1,100 p.a.). Applicants should have ability in architectural design and a wide experience of architectural practice is essential, especially in good-class commercial work. Contributory superannuation. Application form and particulars to be obtained from Chief Architect (VACANCY), Broadfield, Crawley, Sussex, and returned by 8th February, 1954.

C. A. C. TURNER, Chief Executive.

[7603]

### COUNTY BOROUGH OF EAST HAM.

**TEMPORARY ESTIMATOR** for Building Works in Borough Engineer's Department. Salary £595-£645 (Grade A.P.T.V.) London Weighting is paid in addition. Salary in excess of minimum may be paid according to qualifications and experience. A subsistence allowance may be paid to the person appointed if unable to obtain suitable housing accommodation.

Further details and application form (returnable by 5th February, 1954) from Town Clerk, Town Hall, East Ham, E.6.

[7606]

# ANNOUNCEMENTS • CONTRACTS • TENDERS

Close for press 1st post Monday for following Thursday Issue

## APPOINTMENTS—contd.

### MINISTRY OF WORKS.

**ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT** required in Aberdeen for work in the Maintenance Division Drawing Office.

Applicants should have had at least three years' Architectural training, plus experience in an Architect's Office and a knowledge of the subsidiary duties common thereto.

Scale £385, rising to £613 per annum. Commencing salary according to age and experience.

Applications, stating age, experience and qualifications (or Architectural Educational attainments), should be sent to the Ministry of Works, Room 122, 122, George Street, Edinburgh, 2.

[7592]

## CONTRACTS

### EDUCATION COMMITTEE

for the  
COUNTY BOROUGH OF BRIGHTON.

TENDERS are invited for the erection and completion of a

**SIX CLASSROOM AND LAVATORY EXTENSION TO WOODINGDEAN PRIMARY SCHOOL, BRIGHTON.**

Bills of Quantities and Form of Tender may be obtained from the Borough Engineer and Surveyor, 26/30, Kings Road, Brighton, on or after Monday, 18th January, 1954, on receipt of a returnable deposit of £3 3s.

Tenders are to be delivered to the Borough Engineer and Surveyor's office in plain sealed envelopes not later than 12 noon on Monday, 15th February, 1954.

W. O. DODD,

Town Clerk.

[7593]

### MABLETHORPE AND SUTTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

#### SUTTON ON SEA PLEASURE GARDENS.

TENDERS are invited for the construction of—

1. Reinforced concrete colonnade and retaining walls. (Contract No. 1).

2. Pleasure Gardens, including concrete paving, levelling, reinforced concrete paddling pool, attendant's shelter, kiosk and pavilion, gardens, etc. (Contract No. 2).

Plans of the proposed works and conditions of contract, specification and bills of quantities may be obtained on payment of a deposit of £2 2s for each set of documents (returnable on receipt of a bona fide tender) at the Council Offices, Mablethorpe.

Sealed tenders in plain envelopes, endorsed "Colonnade" or "Pleasure Gardens" as the case may be, must be delivered to the undersigned not later than the first post on the 6th February.

The Council does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender for either project.

R. VINCENT LEWIS,

Clerk of the Council.

Council Offices,  
Mablethorpe.

[7595]

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### IMPERIAL ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT.

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION OF 1950  
FOR THE IMPERIAL PALACE AT  
ADDIS ABABA.

IT is desired that four unsuccessful Architects and Engineers who submitted plans for the above competition should communicate to the Imperial Ethiopian Embassy, 17, Princes Gate, London, S.W.7, their postal addresses so that their drawings may be returned to them. The following are the devices marked on drawings whose owners cannot be identified:—

- (1) Letter "E" in the centre of a shield drawn within a circle.
- (2) "XX" on a black ground.
- (3) "THE LION LIKES THE FLIGHT OF THE OWL."
- (4) "1874"; author Mr. Constant A. Leclerc.

[7602]

## MISCELLANEOUS SECTION

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PRESS DAY Monday. Remittances payable to Iliffe & Sons Ltd., Dorset House, Stamford Street, London, S.E.1.

No responsibility accepted for errors.

## ARCHITECTURAL APPOINTMENTS VACANT

The engagement of persons answering these advertisements must be made through the local office of the Ministry of Labour and National Service, etc., if the applicant is a man aged 18-64 or a woman aged 18-59 inclusive, unless he or she or the employer is exempted from the provisions of The Notification of Vacancies Order 1952.

**ARCHITECTURAL Assistants** wanted, qualified A and inter-standard.—Write or phone Abbey & Hanson, Chartered Architects, 11, Cloth Hall St., Huddersfield. Tel. 225.

**SENIOR Assistant** required by London Architects to work on contemporary schemes, capable of controlling working drawing group. Salary £750 per annum.—Box 2739.

**ARCHITECTURAL assistant** with office experience required immediately for London office, having varied practice, must be a neat draughtsman with a sound knowledge of construction; salary £600 per annum.—Apply Box 2960.

**SENIOR Architectural Assistants** required in busy Eastbourne office with considerable variety of work. Experience in multi-storey flats an advantage. Pension scheme in operation.—Reply, stating age, experience and salary required, to H. Hubbard Ford, F.R.I.B.A., 24, Cornfield Rd., Eastbourne.

**ASSISTANT** required in Architect's Department of North Lincolnshire Iron and Steel Works. The Department is responsible for the design of offices, amenity, medical and laboratory buildings, in connection with works development. Applicants should be at least of Inter-R.I.B.A. Standard, have a sound knowledge of modern construction and building services, and be quick and accurate draughtsmen capable of preparing working detail drawings from sketch plans.—Write, stating age, details of training and experience, and salary required, to Box 2734.

## SITUATIONS VACANT

The engagement of persons answering these advertisements must be made through the local office of the Ministry of Labour and National Service, etc., if the applicant is a man aged 18-64 or a woman aged 18-59 inclusive, unless he or she or the employer is exempted from the provisions of The Notification of Vacancies Order 1952.

**SENIOR Structural Engineering Assistant.** Excellent position available for man of personality and ability. Thorough knowledge building construction, structural design and calculations absolutely essential. Knowledge of timber design desirable but not essential. Work entails preparation drawings incorporating Troftek Structural Systems and consultation with architect clients.—Reply in writing to Troftek Director, H. Newsam, Sons & Co., Ltd., Lincoln.

**JUNIOR** required, preferably passed Inter., for medium-sized busy contemporary offices; bonus scheme; must be neat, quick draughtsman; salary according to ability, state age, experience, salary required and when available.—J. Roland Sidwell, A.R.I.B.A., 27, Union Street, Coventry.

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[7577]



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CARVED oak beams, baulks, joists, barge boards, etc., from Tudor timber house complete pre-war.—Bridge House, Broxbourne, Herts. Tel. Hoddesdon 3317. [7609]

FOR dressed Derbyshire Gritstone for Public Works, Civil Engineering and Housing Schemes, Random and Dimension Blocks.—Write, Twyford, Stanton-in-Peak, Matlock. Tel. Youlgrave 218. [7605]

## PLANT FOR SALE

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MOBILE Air Compressor on Dennis lorry for sale, 100 c.f.m. at 100 p.s.i. Cradle for 4 breakers. Photo.—F. J. Edwards, Ltd., 359, Euston Rd., London. Eus. 4681. [7594]

## PLANT FOR HIRE

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## LITERARY

AUTHORS invited submit MSS all types (including poems) for book publication.—Stockwell, Ltd., Elms Court, Ilfracombe. (Estd. 1898.) [7552]

## WANTED

WANTED for 10-ton 1931 Aveling-Porter diesel roller, Royalty No. 12646, one engine bed for Blackstone horizontal engine.—South-Eastern Engineering Co., Ltd., West Malling [3041], Kent. [7586]

## NISSEN HUTS, ETC.

RECONDITIONED ex-Army huts and manufactured buildings, timber, asbestos, Nissen type, hall type, etc., all sizes and prices.—Write, call or telephone Universal Supplies (Belvedere), Ltd., Dept. 32, Crabtree Manorway, Belvedere, Kent. Tel. Erith 2948. [0120]

FOR sale: New fabricated Steel Frame Building, 200ft long x 100ft wide x 16ft high to eaves, in two 50ft wide bays, ridge type roof; complete with all necessary stanchions, roof principals, purlins, sheeting rails, bolts, nuts, etc.—F. Burrill & Co., 109, Pencisely Rd., Llandaff, Cardiff. Tel.: Llandaff 95. [7604]

## MISCELLANEOUS

NARROW trench buckets to suit all makes of excavators in any specified cutting widths, and lightweight heavy duty dragline buckets for 4 to 4 cu. yd. capacity; sale or hire, quick delivery.—Manufacturers, Nortons Plant Hire, Ramsden, Bilericay, Essex. Tel. Ramsden Heath 365. [0137]

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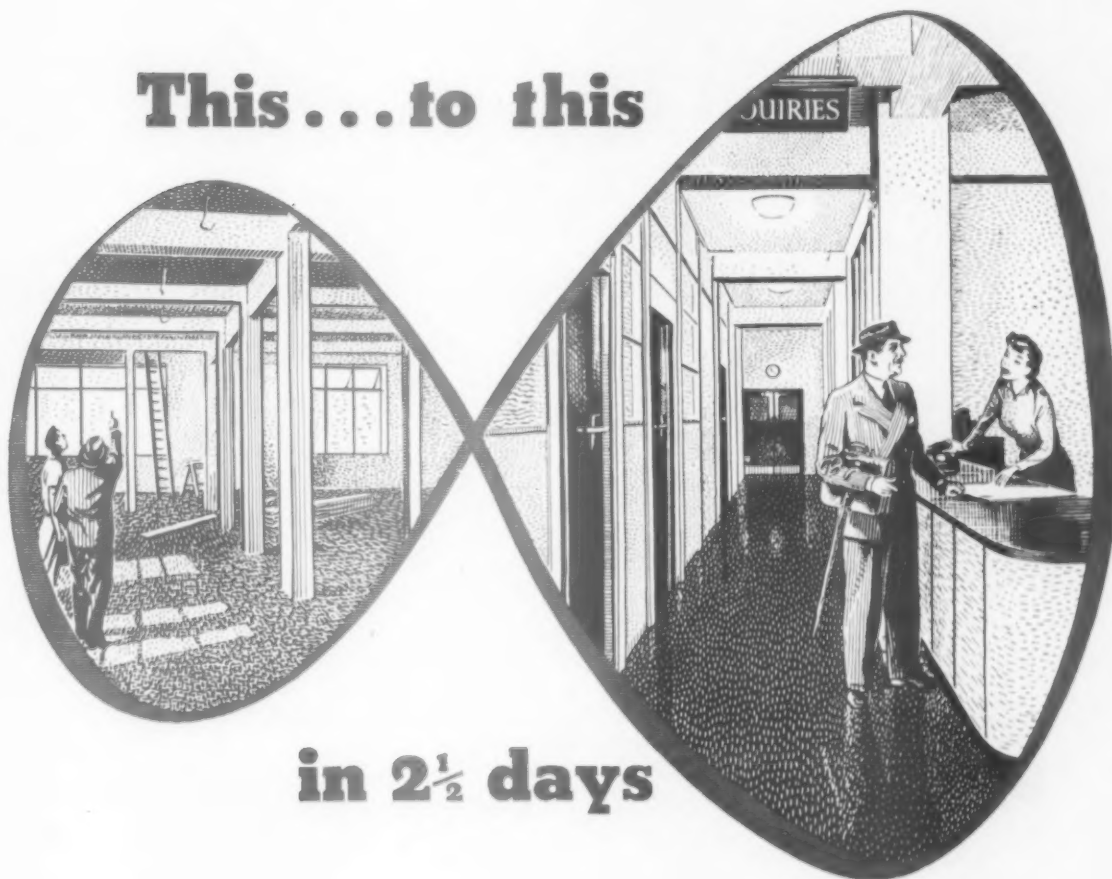
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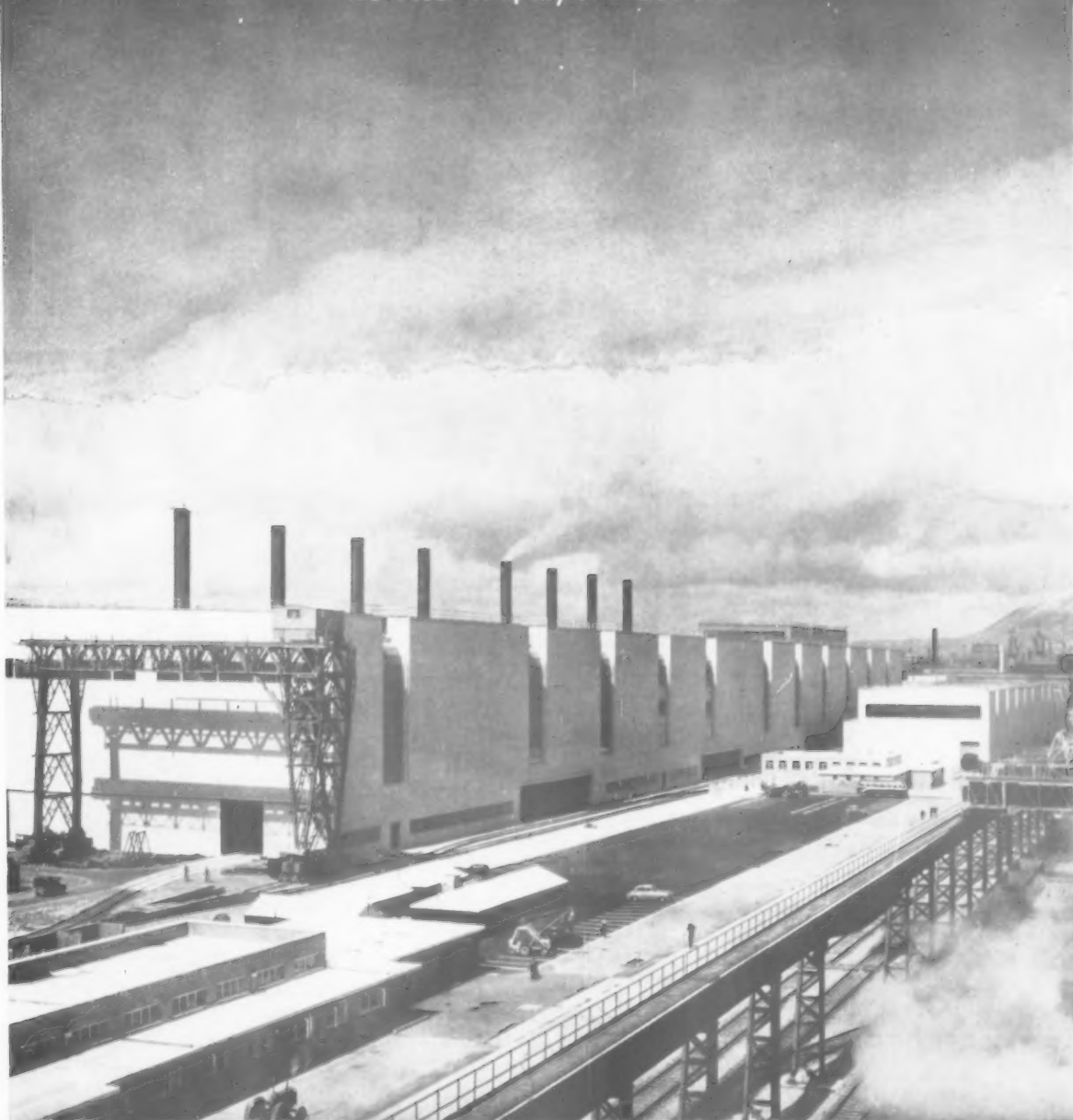
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